



Hero Scans



HERO SCANS IS URGENTLY RECRUITING!

EXPERIENCED CLEANER (URGENT!)

We are looking for an experienced cleaner who is happy to work on complex series.

JAPANESE PROOFREADER:

We are looking for a Japanese translator who is happy to mainly focus on proofreading, ideally with prior experience in this area, JLPT level N2 or above.

DECENSORER

CONTACT US AT HEROSCANSGMAIL.COM TO APPLY!

Serious applicants only, please.

gift

VOLUME 2

CHAPTER 6

RAWS,
CLEANING,
TYPESETTING,
EN PROOF:

QUIETUS

TRANSLATION:

REI

JP PROOF,
QUALITY CHECK:

YAGI



赤い極精の、 約束の場所の

中

一ノ瀬 ゆま

ichinose yuma

bliz comics rutile collection

望んだ十字架の

A full-page illustration featuring two figures, a man with short white hair and a woman with dark hair, embracing and kissing. They are completely encased in a dense, chaotic web of red lines that resemble thick, tangled ropes or ribbons. The lines crisscross their bodies and extend outwards, filling the background and foreground. The man is on the left, facing right, and the woman is on the right, facing left. The overall composition is vertical, with the figures positioned in the center. The red lines vary in thickness and density, creating a complex, almost abstract pattern around the couple.

motif : "Red" by Hajime Kano



gift 中

OF RED SHACKLES.
OF A PROMISED PLACE.
OF A DESIRED CROSS.

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gift

OF RED SHACKLES,
OF A PROMISED PLACE,
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一ノ瀬 ゆま

ichinose yuma

birz comics
rutile collection

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003

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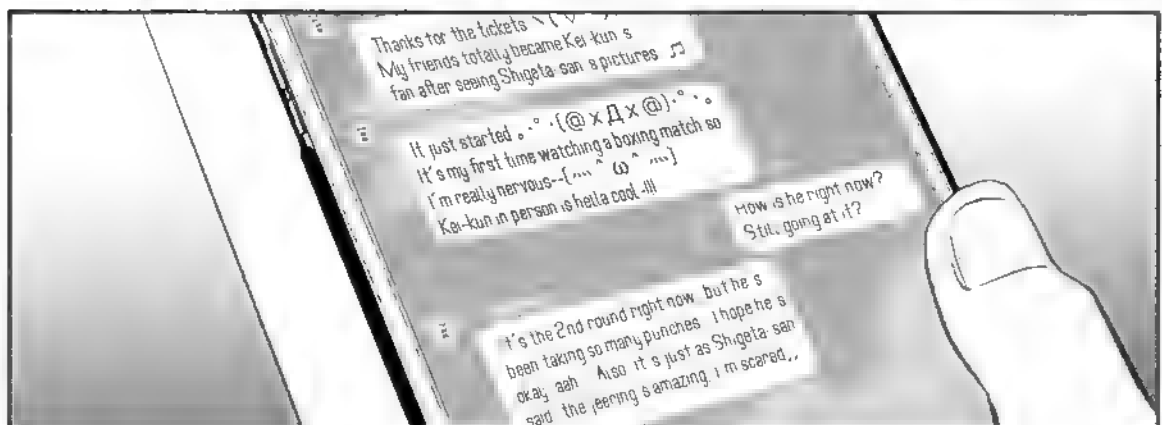
Setting ①. Mikoshiba Yutaka is a gym trainer and a homosexual.



To that
Setting ②. In order to hide the fact of him Mikoshiba Yutaka is homosexual,
I must never hug or kiss Yutaka in front of other people.
I cannot speak freely, it seems.



Setting ③. The thing that Yutaka wants the most is victory.





Win. Win. If you don't win...



SETTING
④.



wa

KEI



YOU

SHOULD
JUST
LIVE HOW-
EVER

YOU

WANT

ANY-
THING
OTHER
THAN
VICTORY,
THEN
YUTAKA

"DOES
NOT
NEED
IT."





WELL,
AREN'T
YOU
GLAD?



YOU
CAN STILL
STAY BY
YUTAKA'S
SIDE.



You did
well!



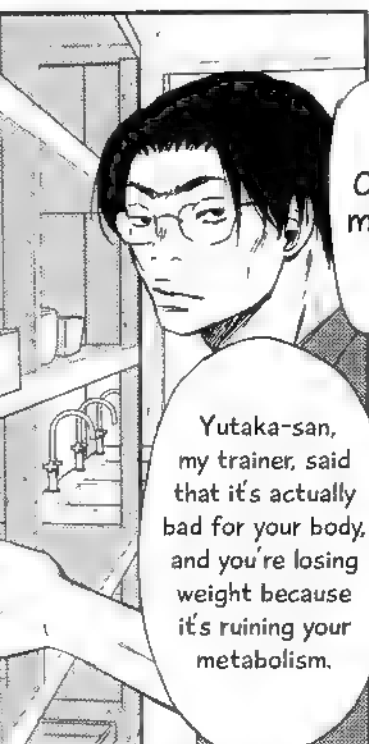
y
u
...
t
...
A
...

I BUGGED
OUT AND
DIDN'T
REALLY GET
WHAT WAS
HAPPENING,
THOUGH.





It feels really great to be told, "You did well!" by your trainer!



Oh my!

Yutaka-san, my trainer, said that it's actually bad for your body, and you're losing weight because it's ruining your metabolism.



The weight-loss regime is tough, for sure, but he won't make us do anything crazy, either.

Like the one where you don't drink at all, called "drying out".

So I felt like I couldn't just keep on feeling down, just because of feeling like I'm being surpassed by my kouhai.

That one's so brutal! You can end up so drained that even getting hit by the rain will increase your weight!

hehe
Is that so?



Ah, but...

I wonder if you'll be shocked if you hear this..



The guy who kinda looks like an idol, with big eyes and short hair.

That guy.

That guy turned out to be kind of weird, actually.

Yutaka-san is thorough about stuff like that.

Oh yeah! He's the one that brought the unfriendly, foreign-looking guy to our shop the other day!







WORK HARD,
TOMOMA!
I'M CHEERING
FOR YA!

...Kay.



SHIRAISHI
WILL GET
THERE
FIRST,
Y'KNOW!

When
will you
get to
the 6th
round?!

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH!

Ahh, hello,
hello...! I'll
be 23 the
day after
tomorrow!

Nah, Shiraishi's
going further
than that, isn't
he?



Hm?

You're
turning 20
next month,
huh.

Yutaka-
san.



Yutaka-
san, want
some?

Ah, yes,
thank you.



If it's just
one glass,
then today
is...



We will hide everything



DON'T
LICK IT.
THERE ARE
PEOPLE
AROUND.



?!

You had
something
stuck there.
...Mayonnaise?

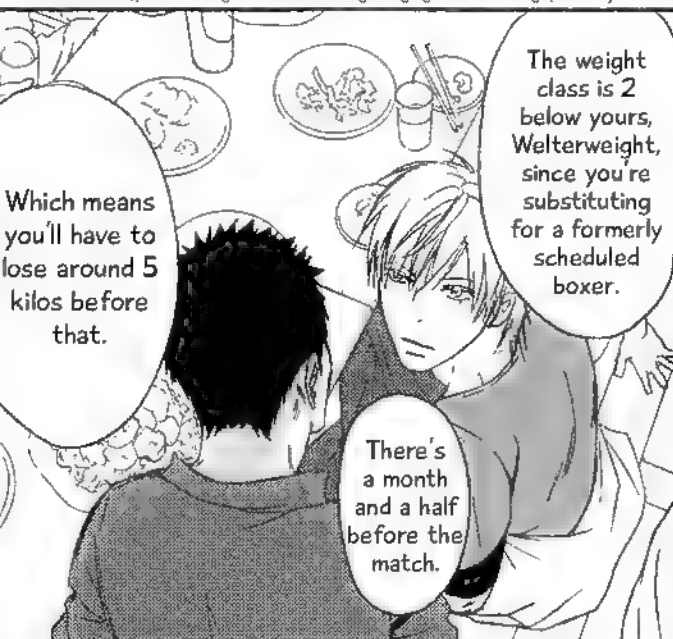
...from
the salad
dressing!

Maybe!

Ah...
Yeah...



T/V. Welterweight is a weight class in boxing ranging from 63.5 kg (140 lbs) to 66.7 kg (147 lbs). Ke would box as a Middleweight without additional weightloss.







Your body fat before the match was already only 7 or 8%, so...

To lose 5 kilos from that would mostly involve losing your muscles...

Increasing aerobic exercise to shrink your muscle fibers,

while restricting your diet to further decrease remaining fat.

How do you do that?

Hmm...



You have such a nice body, though. It's a shame you have to lose weight.



Well, that's true...

YOU'RE RESPONDING LIKE IT'S SOMEONE ELSE'S PROBLEM AGAIN, AS ALWAYS.

Well, I just need to do whatever you tell me, don't I?



Lots of people are starting to notice you.



...Yeah.

Let's work
hard, Kei.



It's almost
as if he's not
human.

He's so
beautiful.



I love you,
Kei.

I'm sure you
wouldn't
understand
even if I
were to tell
you that.

If I don't
hope for you
to return my
feelings,

I'd be forgiven
no matter how
much I love.

Then no matter how
much of my feelings
I pour out, I have no
worries over you
pulling away.

But it's
okay.

That's
right.

It's
enough.

His naiveté
is as
charming
as it is
pitiable and
moving.

Kei's
innocence
is heart-
breaking.

I'll keep giving
you my love, even
if none of it may
truly reach you.

The love from
the mother who
abandoned you.
The love from your
alcoholic father.
The love from
the brother who
abused you.

Then I'll give
you as much of
my love as you
need.

To make up for
all the love that
you were denied
in the past.

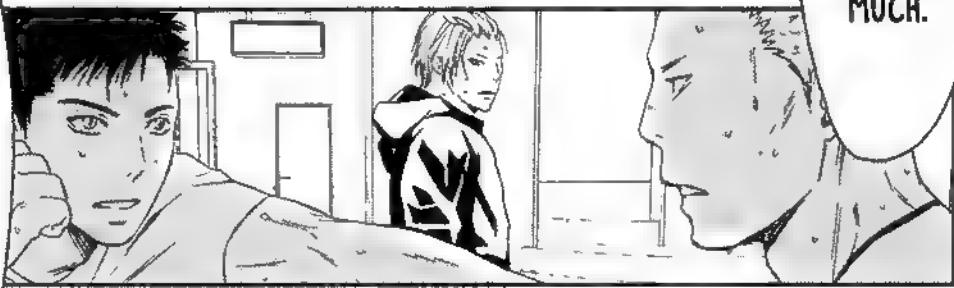


I love you, Kei.





DON'T
BUG OUT.
DON'T
TOUCH
HIM TOO
MUCH.



ANYTHING
THAT COULD
REVEAL
THAT YUTAKA
IS GAY IS
FORBIDDEN.



EVERY-
THING
ABOUT
YOUR
RELATION-
SHIP WITH
YUTAKA
IS A
SECRET,



AND GIVE
YUTAKA
VICTORY.



Win.

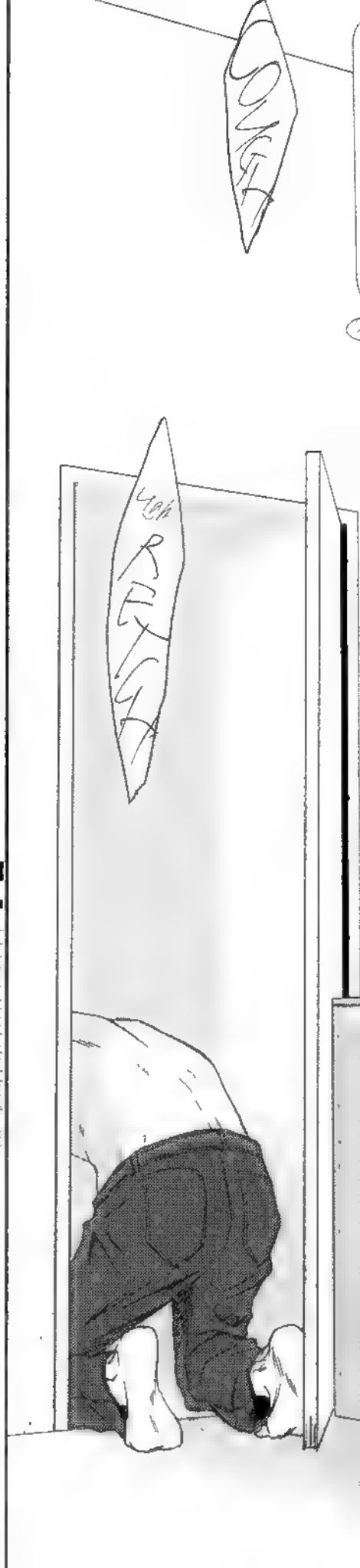
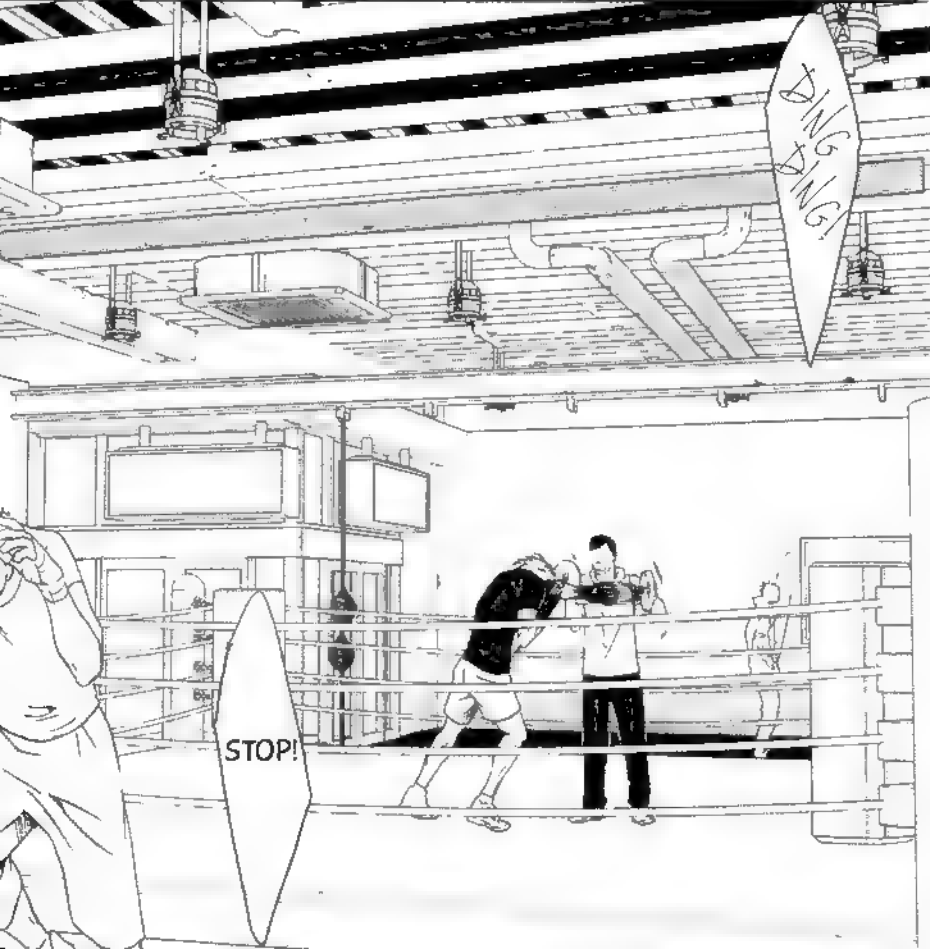
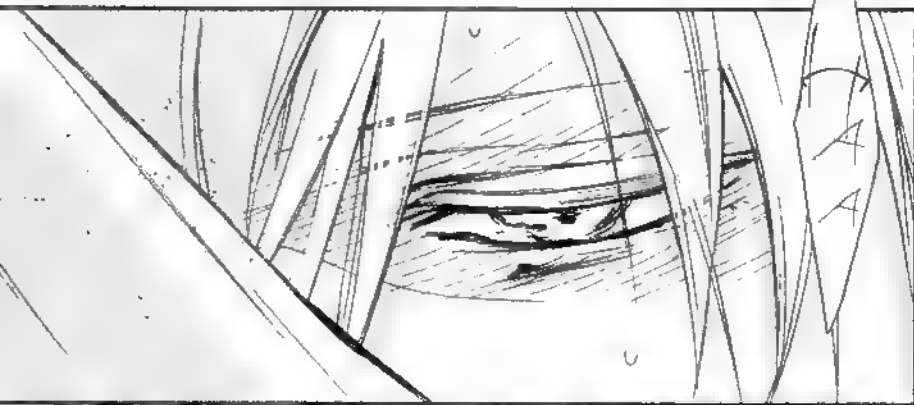


Win.



UGH

If you don't win...





...Falling too fast.





...KEI.

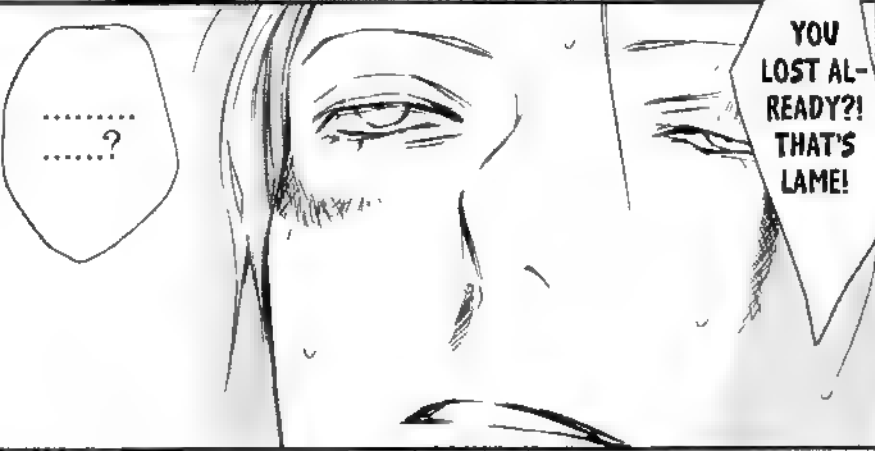
YOU SHOULD
JUST LIVE...
HOWEVER
YOU WANT.





KEI!
CAN YOU
HEAR
ME?!

.....?



YOU
LOST AL-
READY?!
THAT'S
LAME!



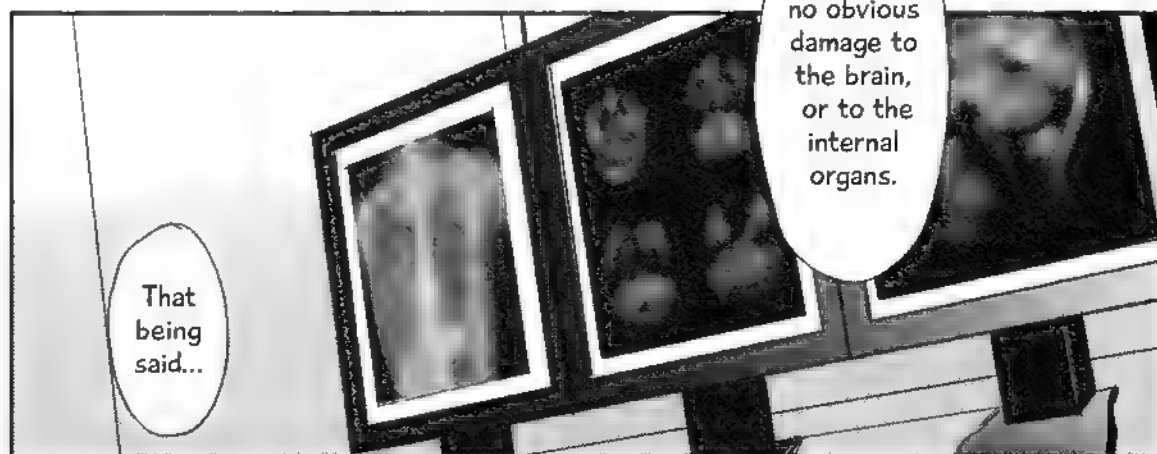
but...
you
fought
well.

It was
a real
shame,

Ah.

I lost,
didn't
I...?





That
being
said...

There was
no obvious
damage to
the brain,
or to the
internal
organs.



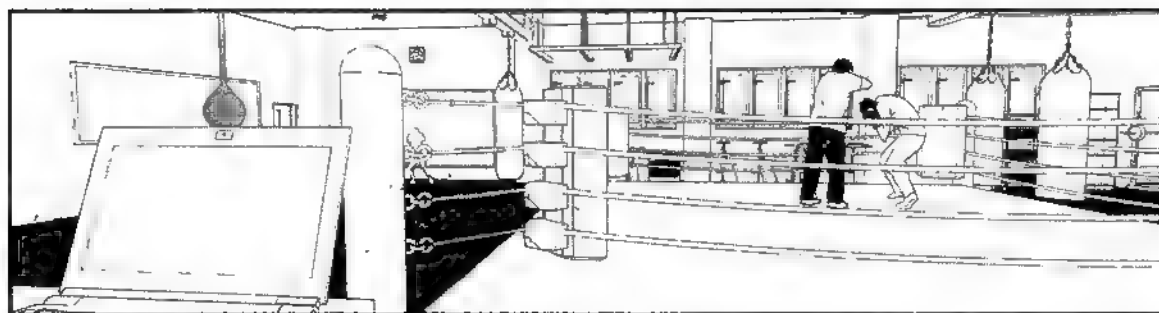
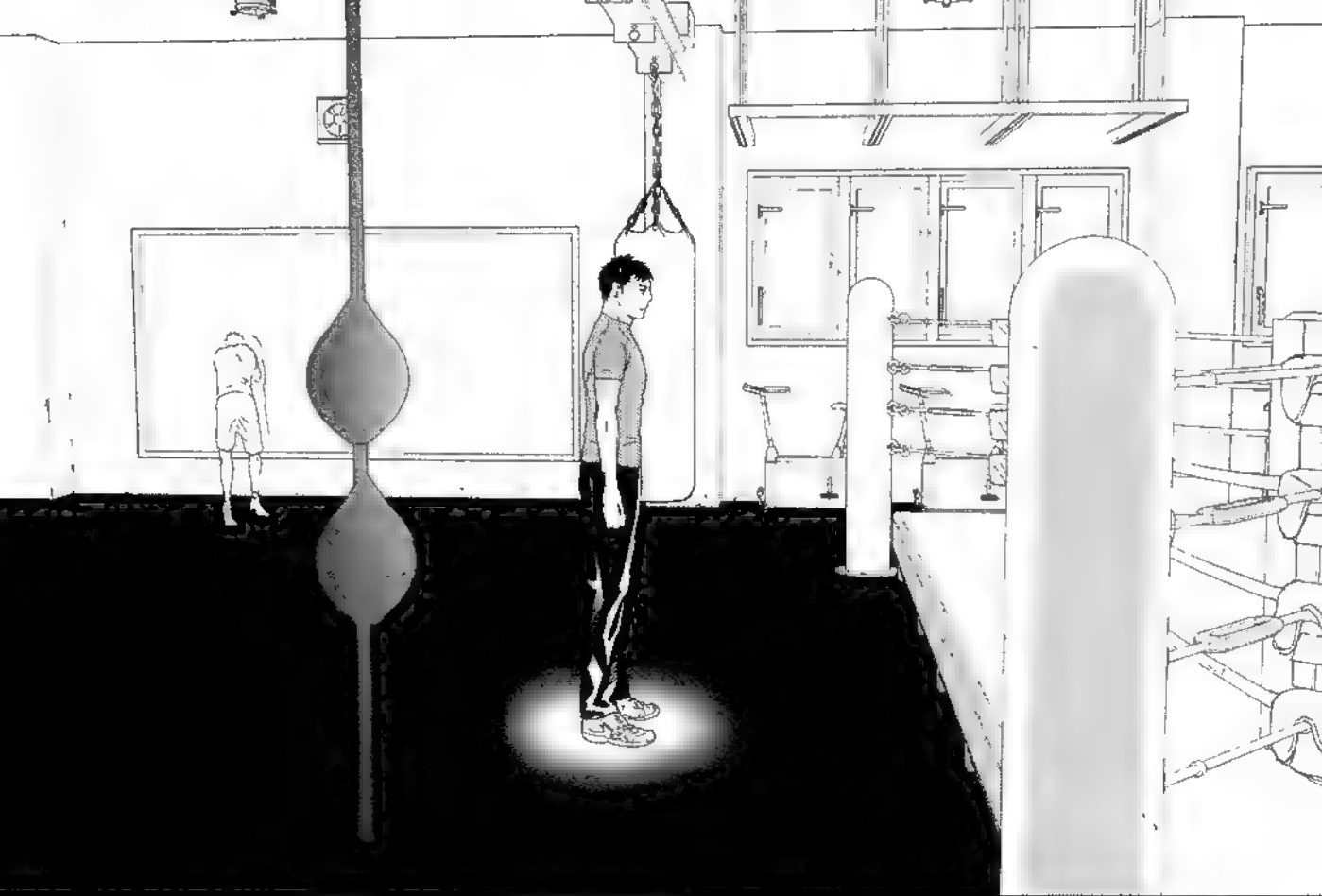
Had his symptoms
been just a little
worse than this,
he would have been
stopped during
the medical check
before the match
today.

He was
showing signs
of severe
malnutrition and
dehydration.
I would assume
that his
consciousness
was hazy even
during the
match.



Your father
used to say
that there is
no victory of
greater worth
than life.

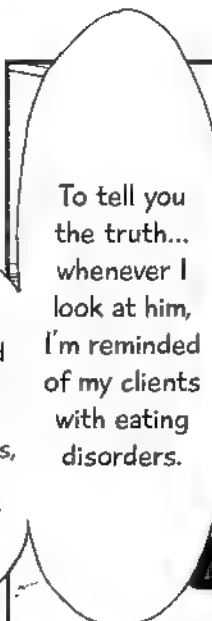
Mikoshiba-
san... have
you changed
your
policies...?





Looking at Kei-kun's weight loss, when he's already pretty tough on himself...

Many people that are expected to maintain their body shape, like models and dancers, have a habit of throwing up their food.



To tell you the truth... whenever I look at him, I'm reminded of my clients with eating disorders.

Malnutrition and dehydration, even when he's eating proper meals... I see.



...Thank you... very much...!

If he has no other illness that could cause this, then I think it might be worth looking into.

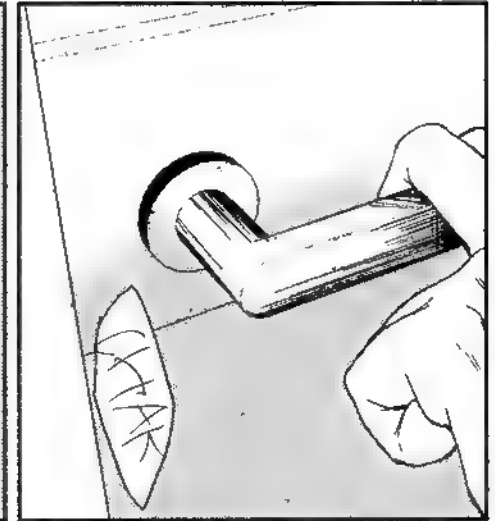
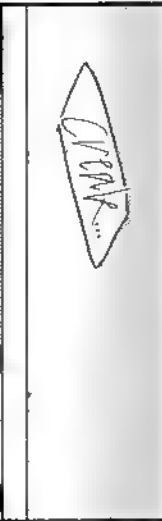
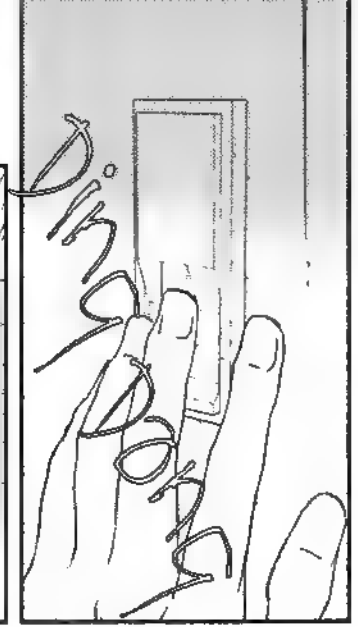


I'm currently working as a psychiatrist, so it might just be I can't help but view it from that perspective, but...



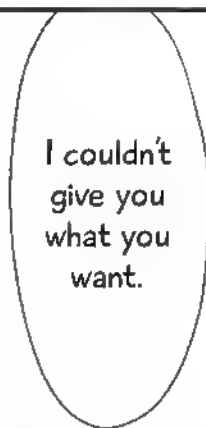
Chairman,

I'm going to check on how Kei's doing for a bit.









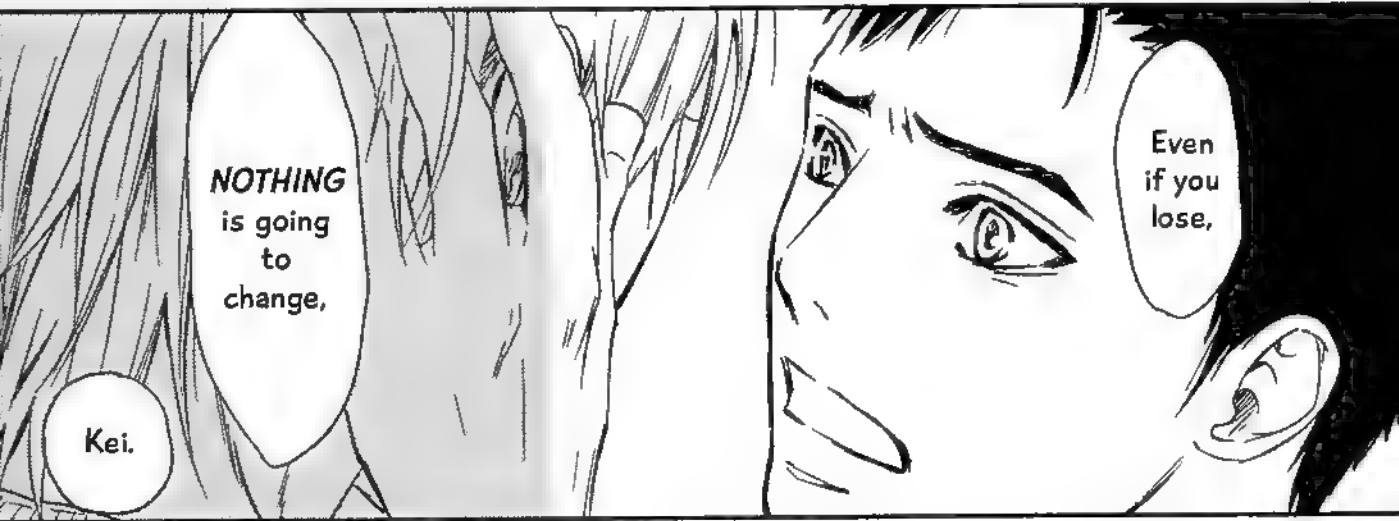


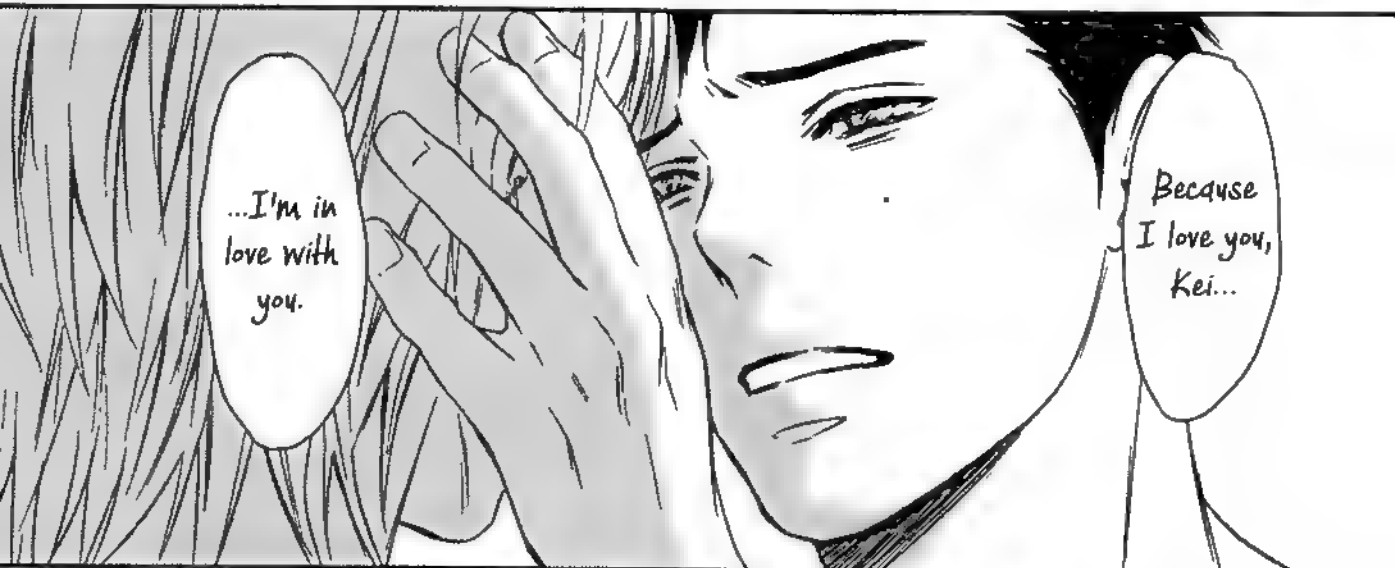
I just
started
to feel like
wanting
to vomit
whenever
I was
alone in
the room.

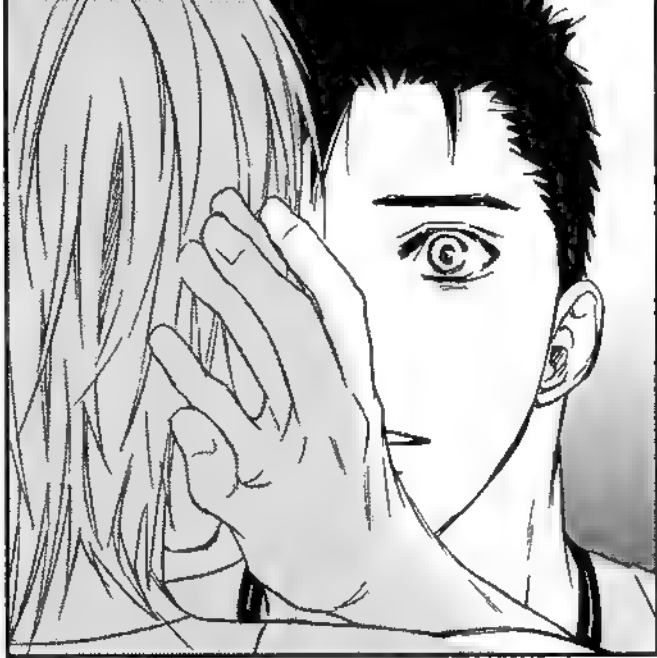
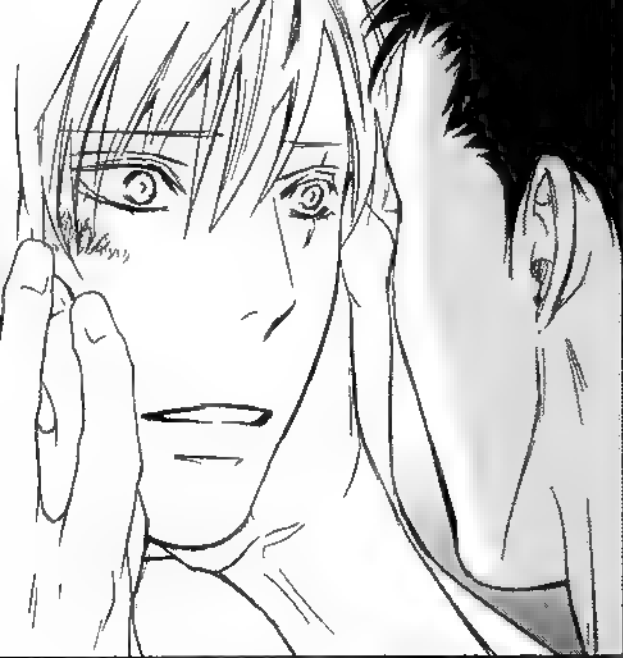


If I lose...

What will
become of me?







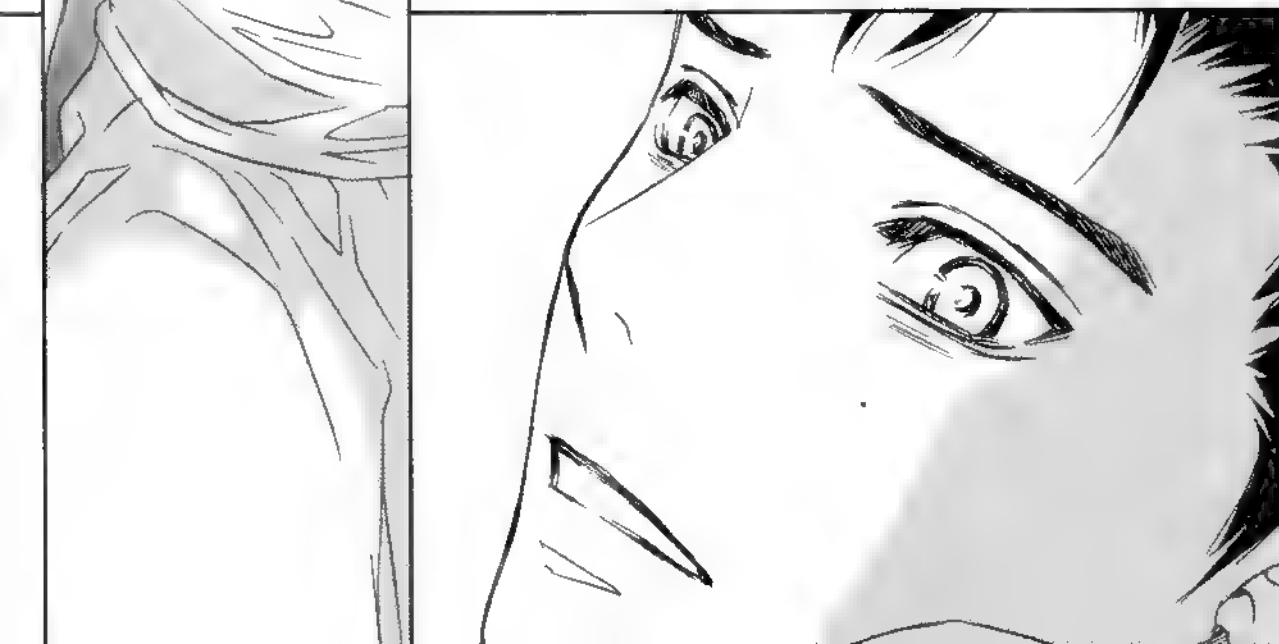


Aaaa

Ma o

Aa,

Kei,
wai

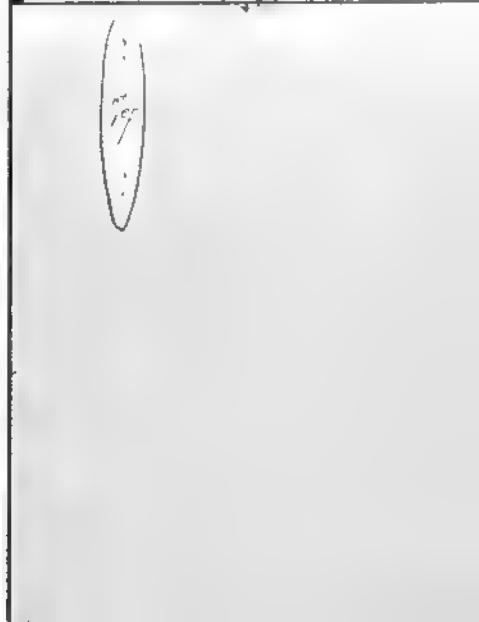


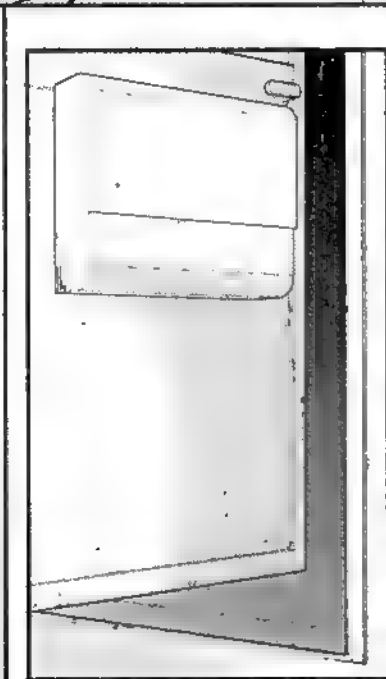


Wait
...!

Kei,

wai-









MAMA

YAY

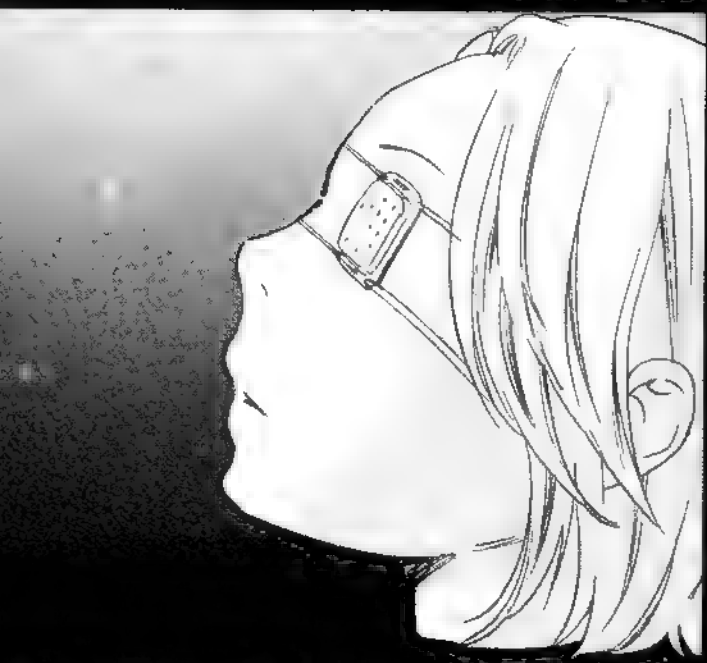
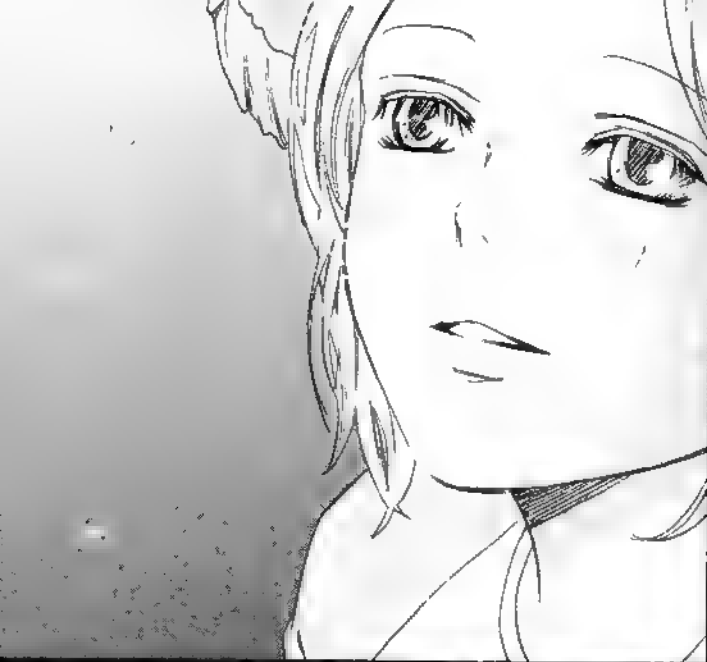
THE
FUCK
ARE YOU
DOING,
SHITTY
BRAT!!

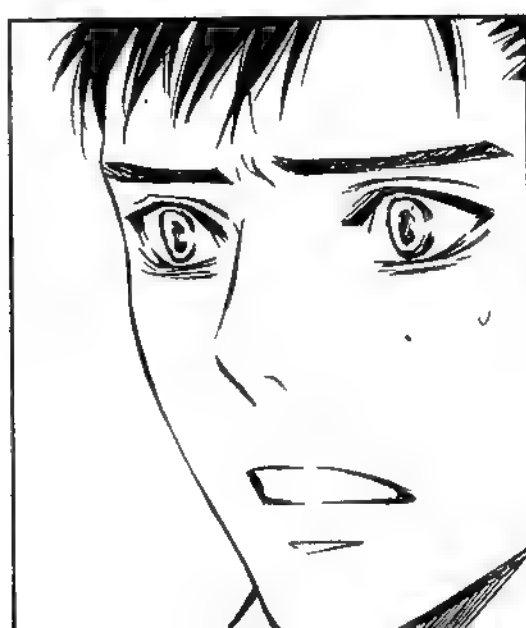
TOMO-
YA!!

YOU'RE
MAKING A
MISTAKE!!

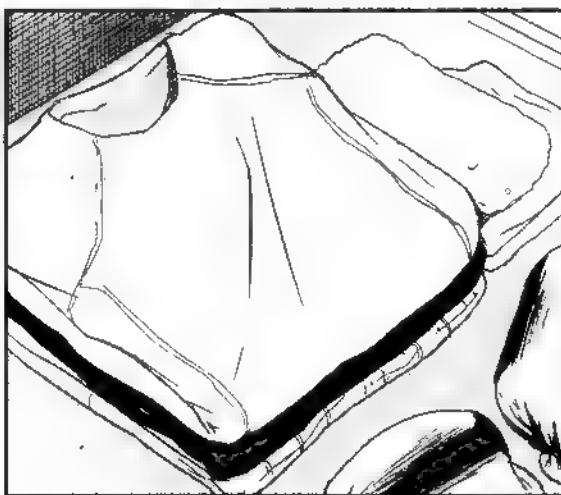
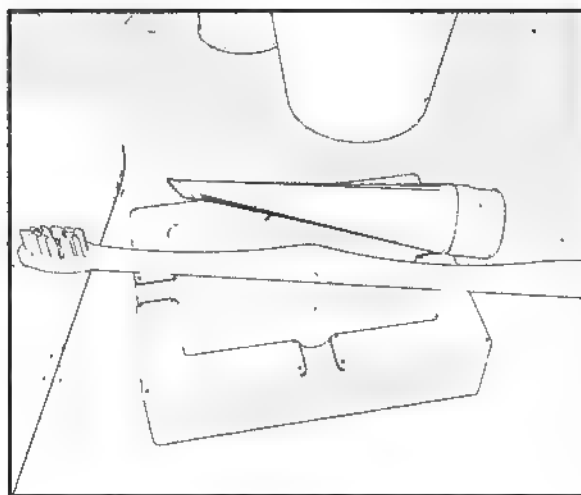
YOU'RE
WRONG!











Those are all...



Those are all things that I've said to Kei.



For convenience, for my own sheer convenience, I've...





What's
the
matter?



...Aniki
...?



CHAPTER 7

RAWS,
CLEANING,
TYPESETTING,
EN PROOF:

QUIETUS

CLEANING:

KIMCHI

TRANSLATION:

REI

JP PROOF:

YAGI

JP PROOF:

KANNA

EN PROOF,
QUALITY CHECK:

VARRICK





**LET
ME
GO
...!!**



**WHAT
ABOUT
THE
GYM
THEN?!**

**IT'S
REALLY
NOT
KEI'S
FAULT!!
KEI
DID...**

**TOMO-
YA!!**



**MORE PEOPLE
ARE COMING
AND THE CHAIR-
MAN WON'T
BE ABLE TO
HANDLE THEM
BY HIMSELF!**

**IT'S
AL-
MOST
8PM!**



GO TO THE
HOSPITAL,
JUST IN
CASE.



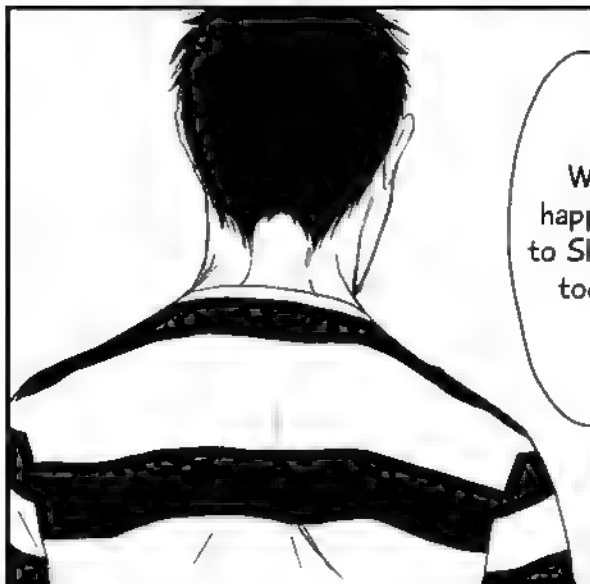
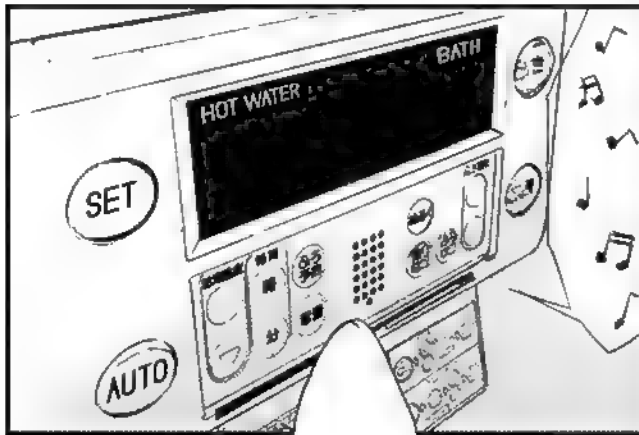
MAYBE
YOU
SHOULD

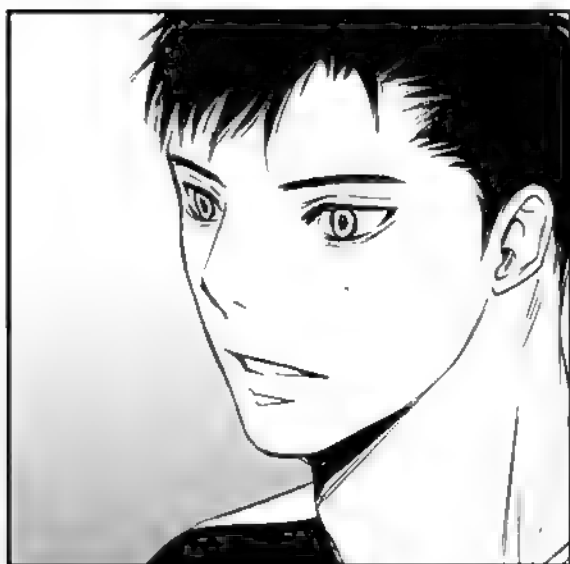


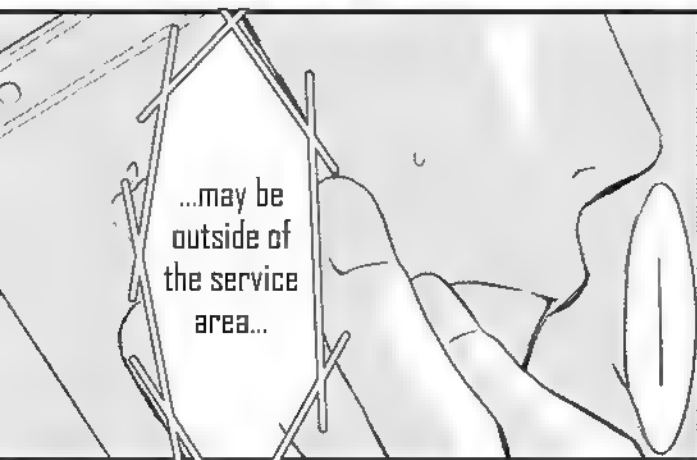
...JUST GO
WASH UP AND
COME BACK
TO THE GYM,
PLEASE.

CLANG





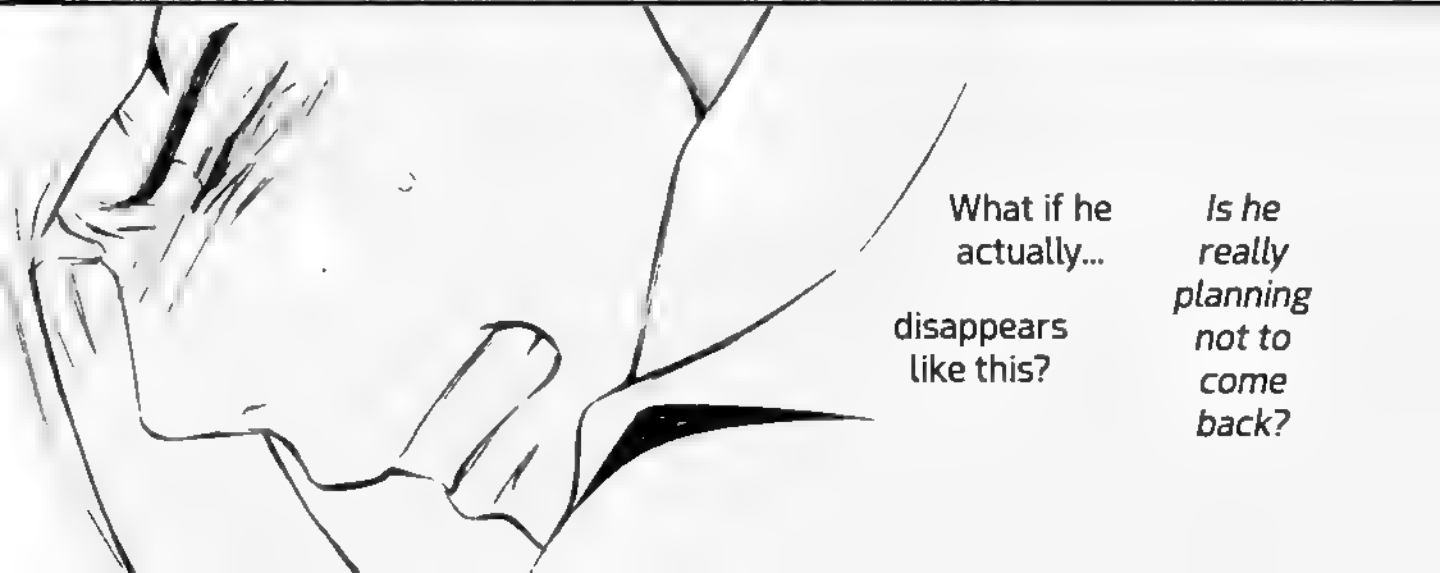






Okay

Where are you? You don't need to worry, please just come back...



What if he
actually...
disappears
like this?

*Is he
really
planning
not to
come
back?*

I'll go look
for him.

But
where?

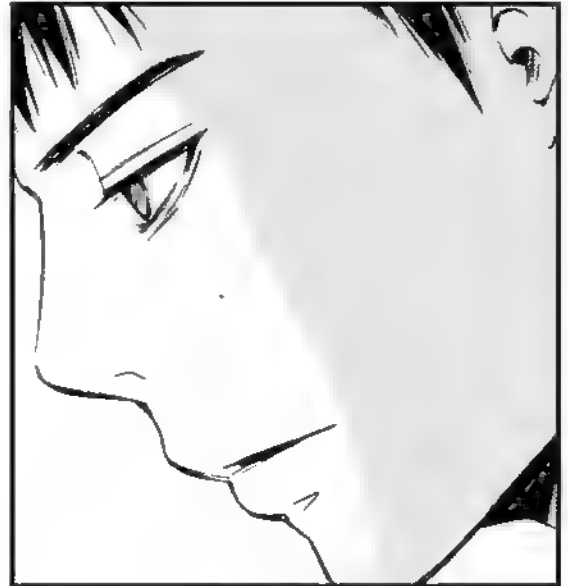
If he
doesn't
come back
by the
morning.

Anywhere.





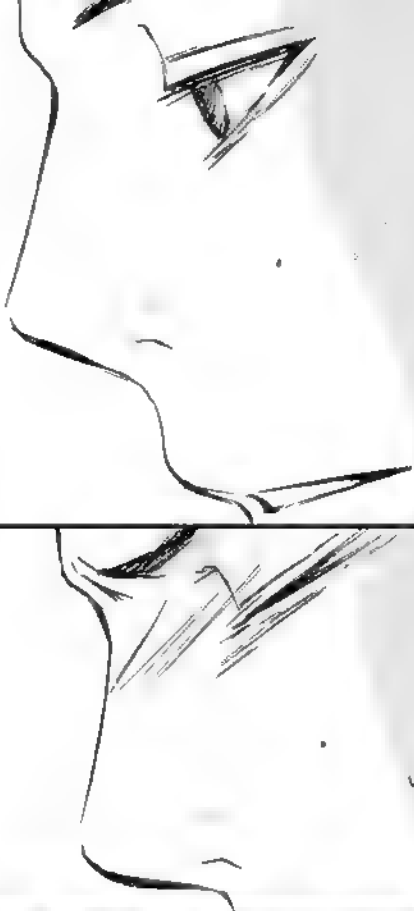
It's as
though...



piece by
piece...



the
consequences
of what I've
done are
coming back
to consume
me,



Someone
found out
about us.

I'm going to
lose Kei.

They saw
us.

Saw. ...No, not
found out
about...

I'm so scared.



Kei is...

And thanks
to that, I've been
so weak, just
looking out
for myself...!

When did I
go so badly
wrong? How did
this become
something that
would bring all
your talent to
ruin?

I disgust
myself!

...It was
wrong
from the
very start.

I should
have drawn
a clear line
between us.

I should have
broken our
relationship
off once you
stopped using
sex as a way
to blackmail
me.

If I'd done that,
you wouldn't
have to lose your
place here.

...
...
NGH!



"Boxing. Do you like it?"



"...Probably, I like it."



...I don't
know.
Kei didn't
seem to
have a will
of his
own...



Kei.....
I wonder
if he really
wanted to
box...

Is that
where I went
astray...?

"I want to do it with you."



"Let's have sex."

"Then don't let yourself get hit.
When I saw that, it was like my brain
shorted out."

"Say it again."

"Do you want me to become a strong boxer?
Do you want me to win?"

"Then I'll do that."



All this
time,

"Anything you want,

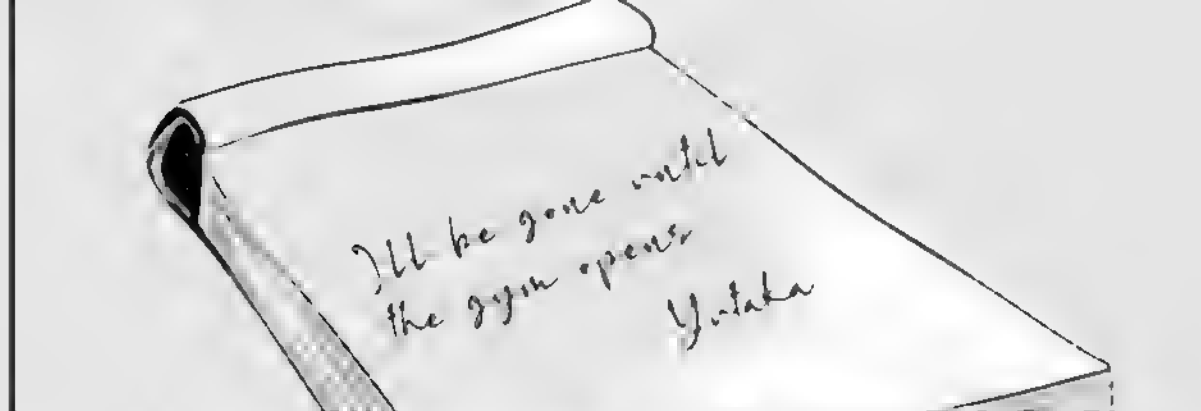
I'll do it."

...Huh...?



were you
dedicating
your
boxing to
me?

...I
need to
look for
him.



I need to find
Kei.



Kei...



and I've
been
loved and
treasured
in return.

But now
for the
first time,
I've come
to love/
someone
from the
bottom of
my heart,



Before I
met you,
I just
drifted
through
my life
quietly.



I can no
longer

go back
to how
I was
before.



Your brother
and the leader
brought you
here, do you
remember any
of that?

You're in a
hospital.



Oh!

How are
you feeling?
Do you
think you
can get up?



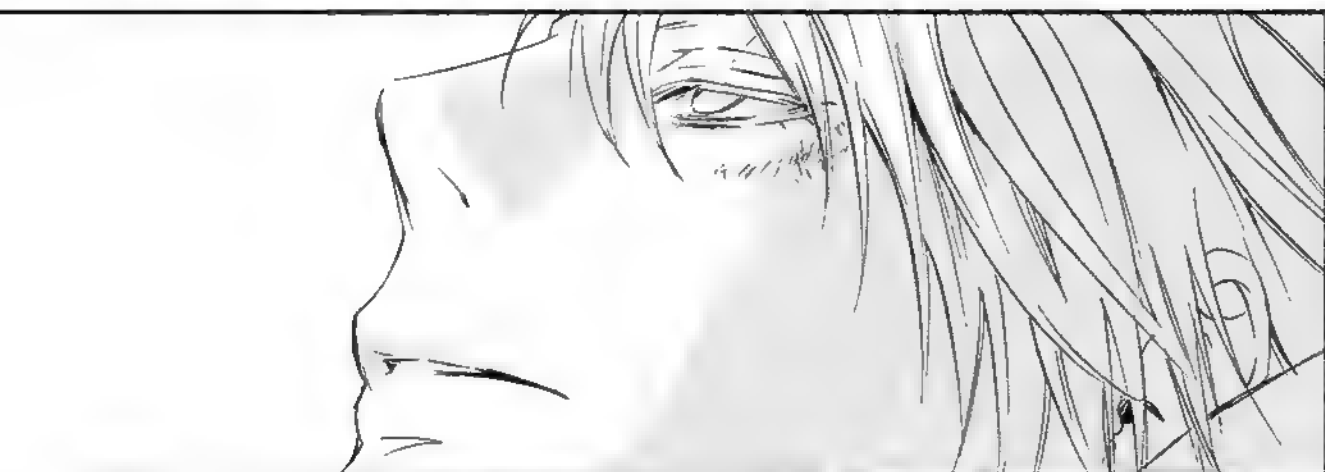
...Aniki...?



I'll let him
know that
you've regained
conscious-
ness.

He should
be back
in the
evening.

Oh, your
brother's
currently
working,
so he's not
here.




I'll take
your
tempera-
ture now.

If you feel
like you can sit
up, would you
like something
light to eat?




You were
showing
symptoms of
dehydration
and fatigue,
so you're on
an IV drip.



but nothing
with sugar in
it, okay?

And also,
you can drink
water as
usual,



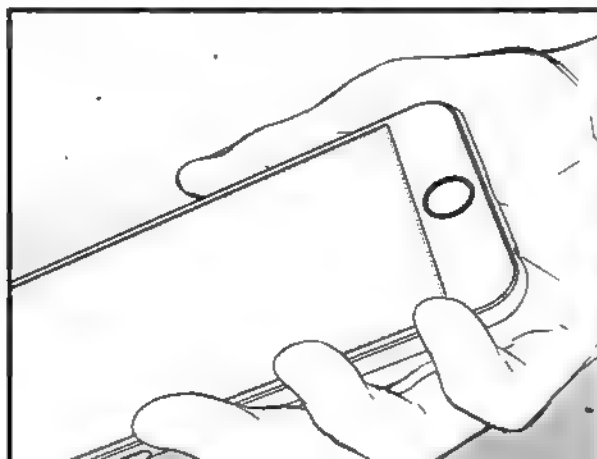
...Water
is fine.



T/N Kakuhen in pachinko machines are similar to a Fever mode in regular gambling. To trigger the Kakuhen mode, one would have to get a specific jackpot. Kakuhen Dash refers to the consecutive jackpots you get after you get into the Kakuhen mode.

If the address
he gave when
he enrolled
at the gym is
correct, then
this should be
the place.

When I
wandered around
here last night,
I thought I'd
taken a wrong
turn some-
where, but...



FOR SALE

ENQUIRIES:



Just stay
calm...!

Don't think
bad
thoughts...!



I need to
go back to
the gym...

I'm out
of time...



My calls
aren't going
through,
he hasn't
read my
LINE
messages
either...
In his
weakened
state,
where
could he
have...?

Kei really
has no place
to return
to.



at least this
means Kei
won't freeze
to death
outside.



It's hot...

Not sleeping
is really
taking a toll
on me,

but,



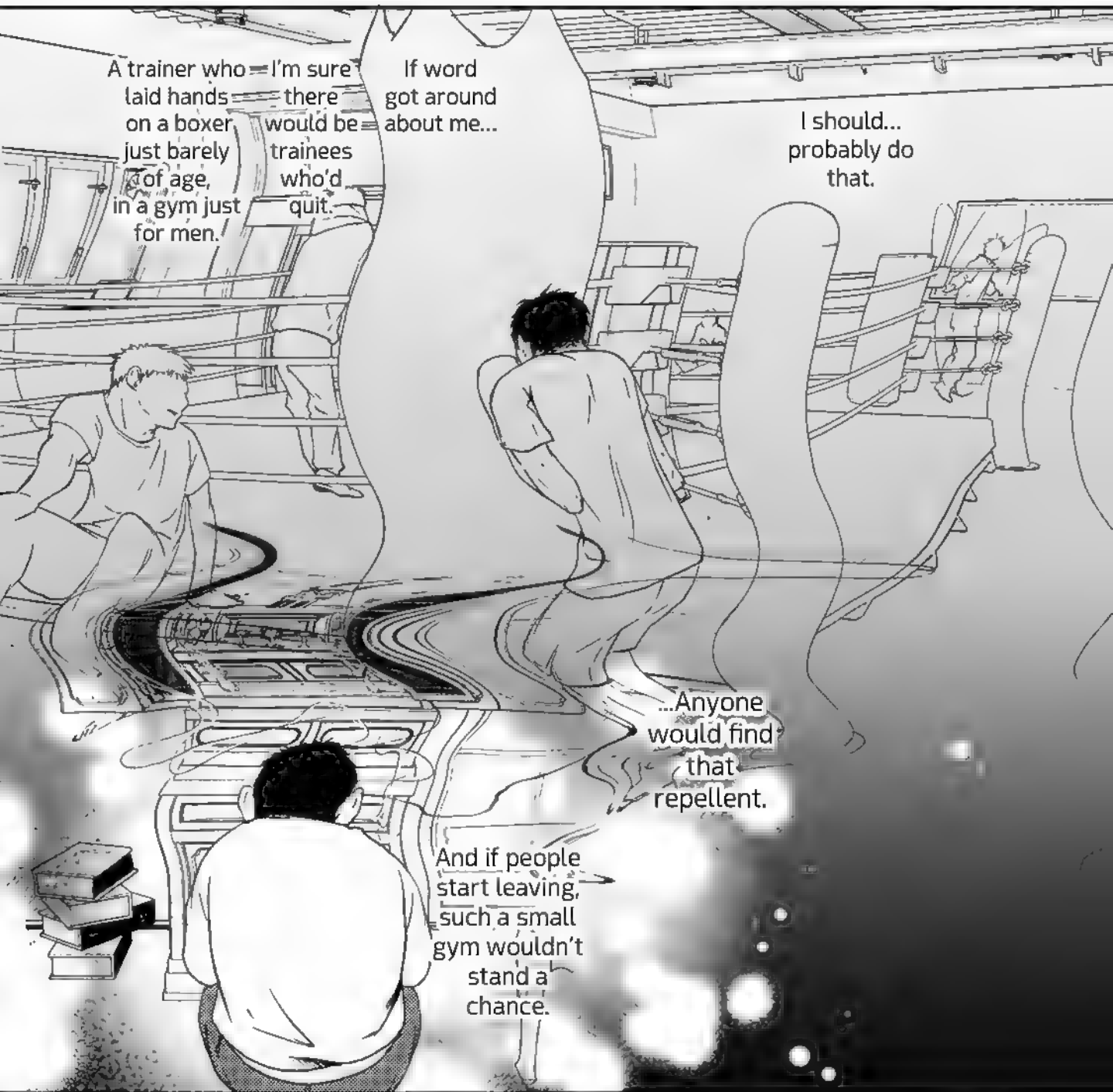
"...Wash up and come back
to the gym."



If it comes
down to
sacrificing
Kei, I'll leave
the gym
instead.

I don't
care what
people
think of
me
anymore.

Leaving that gym.....



A trainer who laid hands on a boxer just barely of age, in a gym just for men.

I'm sure there would be trainees who'd quit.

If word got around about me...

I should... probably do that.

...Anyone would find that repellent.

And if people start leaving, such a small gym wouldn't stand a chance.

I'm sure that must be... the path I ought to take.



when Kei
returns...

But if I'm
not there...

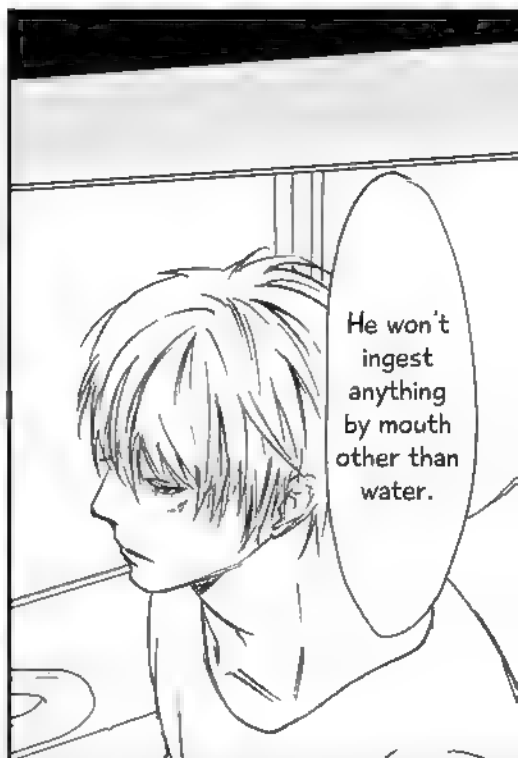


No, he's
healthy.
He seems
a little
fatigued,
though...

More
importantly...

According to Kou,
he's undergone
military-style
training, so I
thought we'd be
able to use him
immediately.

Does he
have an
illness?



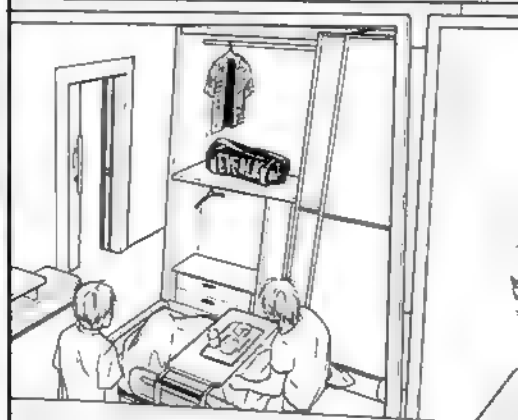
He won't
ingest
anything
by mouth
other than
water.

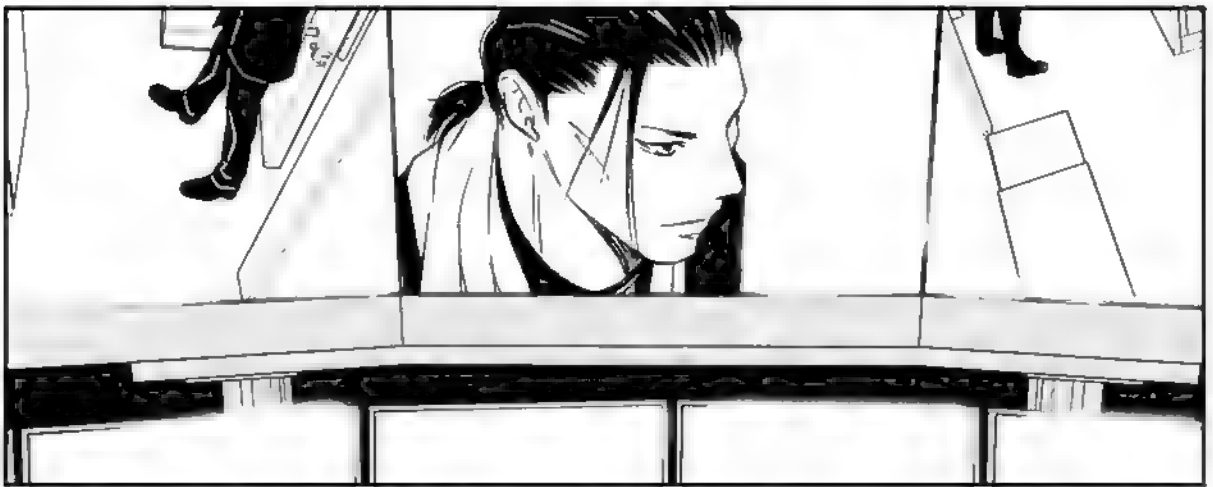


It's a self-
deprecating
joke, really.

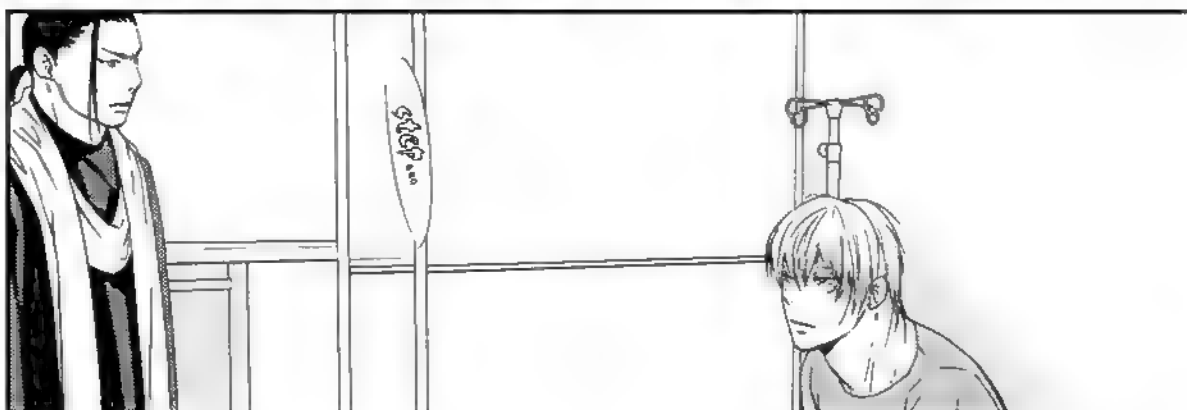
Well, stop
it. You did
quit smoking.
right?

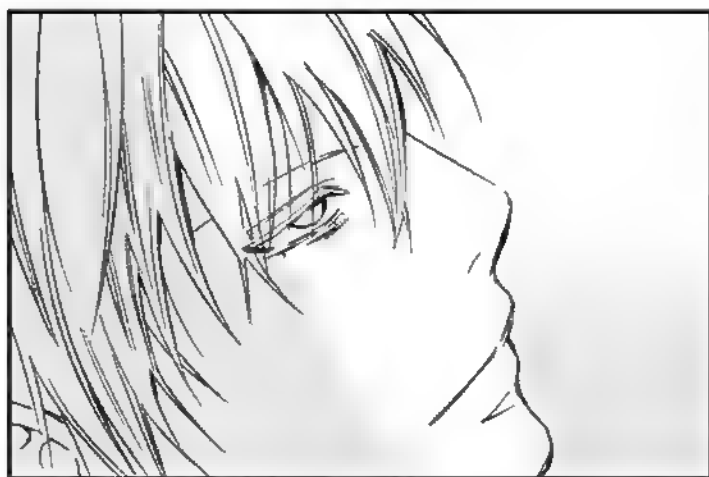
Don't be
so prejudiced
against sick
people, it's
pissing me
off.

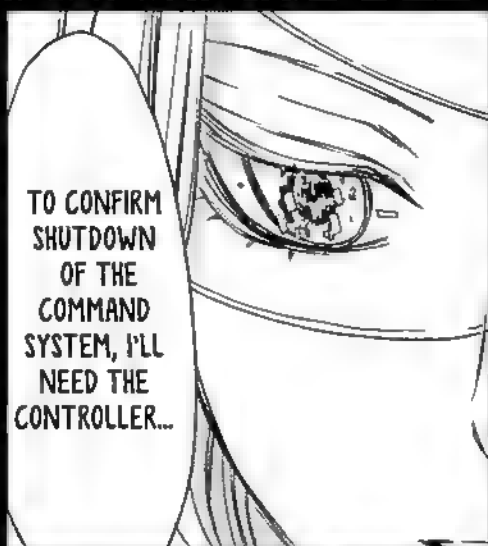
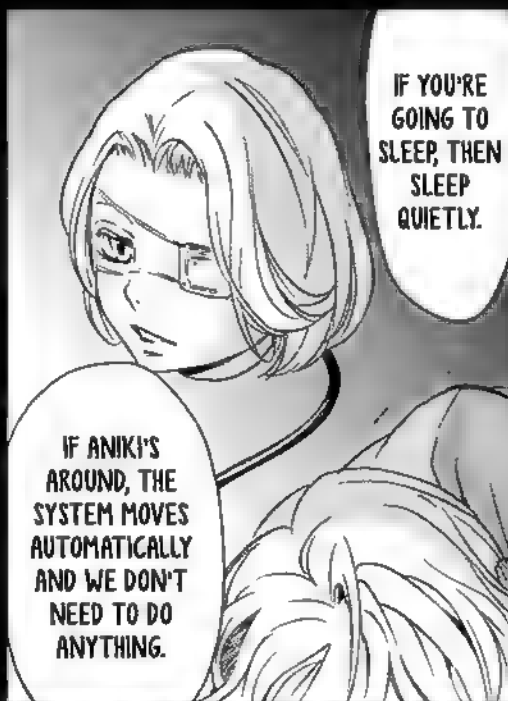


















Just like you.

I'm Choi Se Beom. My Japanese name is Yuuki Kiwamu. I was born and raised in Japan.

Nice to meet you, Kei.



NO, NOT AT ALL...! MY SISTER AND I WOULD HAVE DIED IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, LEADER.

Tsukishiro here used to be a chef, you see.

The food you're eating looks like regular hospital food, but it tastes delicious, doesn't it? His skills are terribly wasted here.



Though, you can't say we're just colleagues. We are a Family.

I work with your brother.

That's why I'd like to get along with you as well.



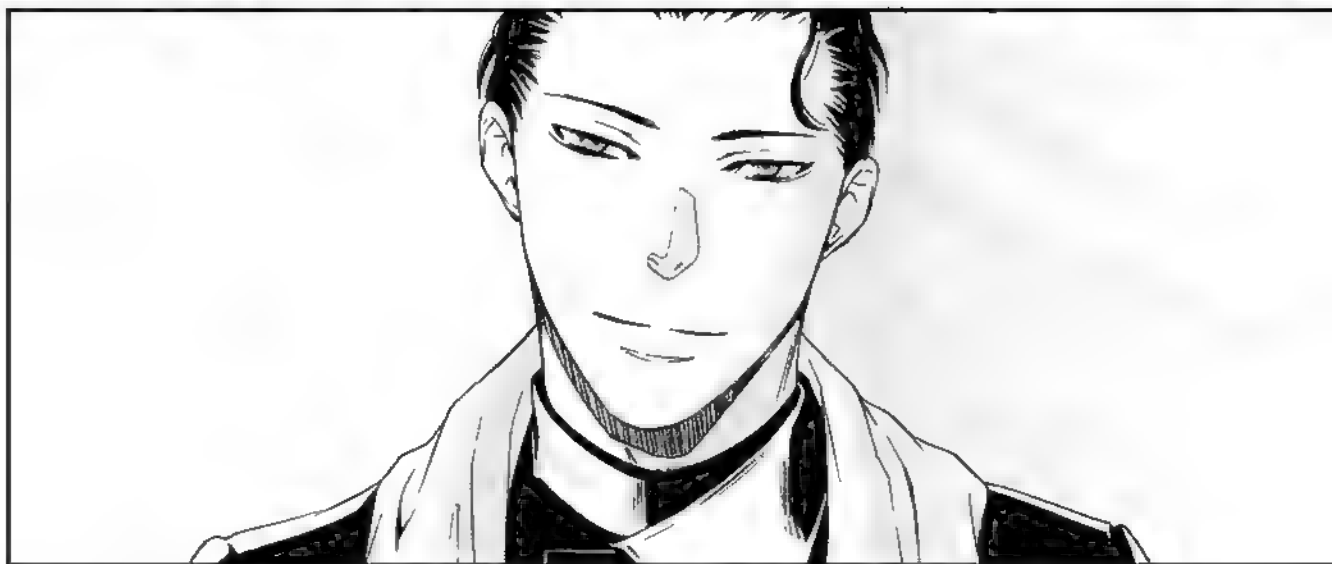
That reminds me,

I was thinking I ought to show this to you, Tsukishiro.

FIREWORKS FACTORY EXPLOSION INCIDENT

TODOROKI FOODS CEO DIES IN AN ACCIDENT
Today, at around 3PM, there was an explosion in a warehouse that manufactures fireworks. The Tsunenami Fireworks shop exploded, and the blaze spread quickly. The blast range had a 20m radius, forcing residents to be evacuated from the immediate area. At that time, a sponsor of the company, the CEO of Todoroki Foods, was on site for an inspection.







I'm sorry
about that,
Kei.

I was
in the
middle of
talking
with you.



There's
something
I have to
tell you
about.

If you're in
pain, I don't
mind if you
listen lying
down.



For
example,
this window
here...

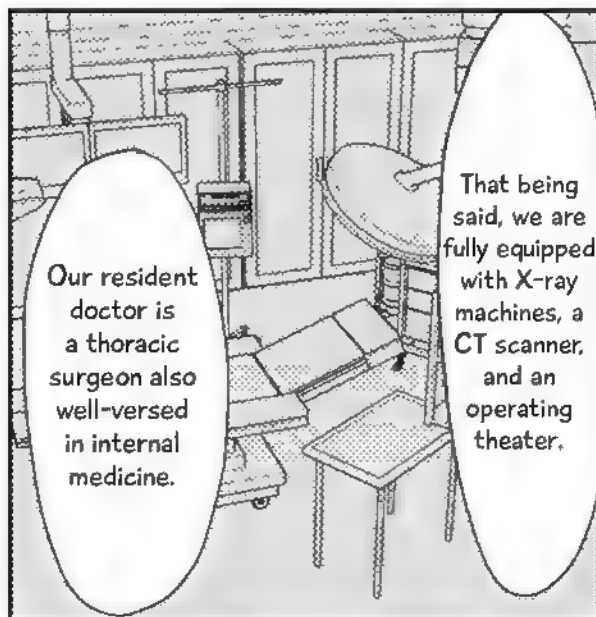
This is a
hospital, but
it's a little
different from
the ones
you'd usually
visit.

Well
then.



Is
fake.

Since having
only blank walls
wouldn't be
conductive to
good mental
health.



Our resident doctor is a thoracic surgeon also well-versed in internal medicine.

That being said, we are fully equipped with X-ray machines, a CT scanner, and an operating theater.



deep within an isolated ward.

This place is situated inside a private mental hospital,



since Daitoumiya-sensei kept griping that he wouldn't be able to cure anybody in such a cavernous empty space.

It was at his request that this place was outfitted with this much equipment,



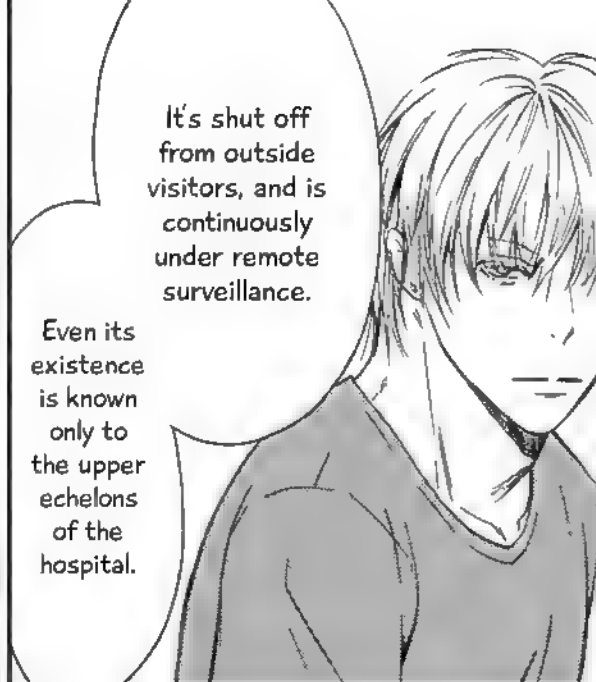
...Who do you think it's all for?

So he would.



No one alive outside of the Family has ever seen this place.

You see what I'm getting at, don't you?



It's shut off from outside visitors, and is continuously under remote surveillance.

Even its existence is known only to the upper echelons of the hospital.



There are two choices.



Pick whichever you prefer.

Either you leave this place as a corpse, or you join the Family.

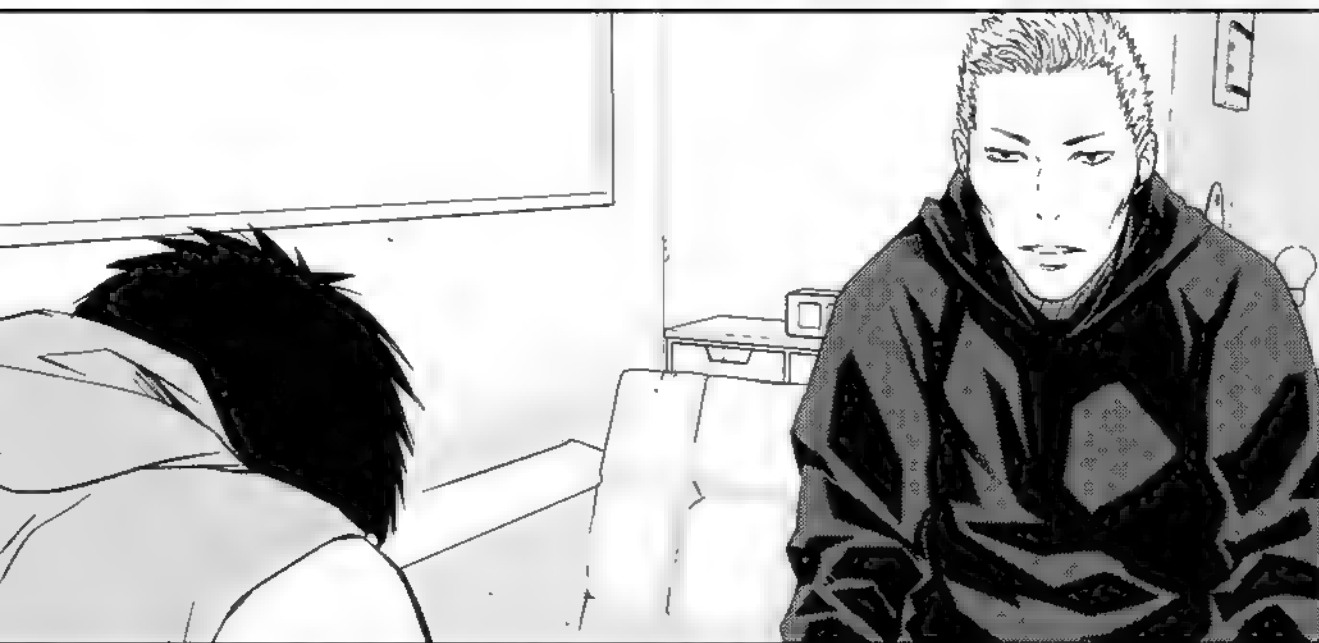




He has
nowhere
else to
go.



And
about
Kei, as
well...



What do you
mean by Family?
What kind of
organization
is it?





In the
"outside"
world, you
have nothing
and nowhere
to lose.

The
reason that
you aren't
perturbed
by anything
is because
you have
nothing.

Isn't that
right?



They're
like a
void
without
end.



Become
my
underling,
Kei.

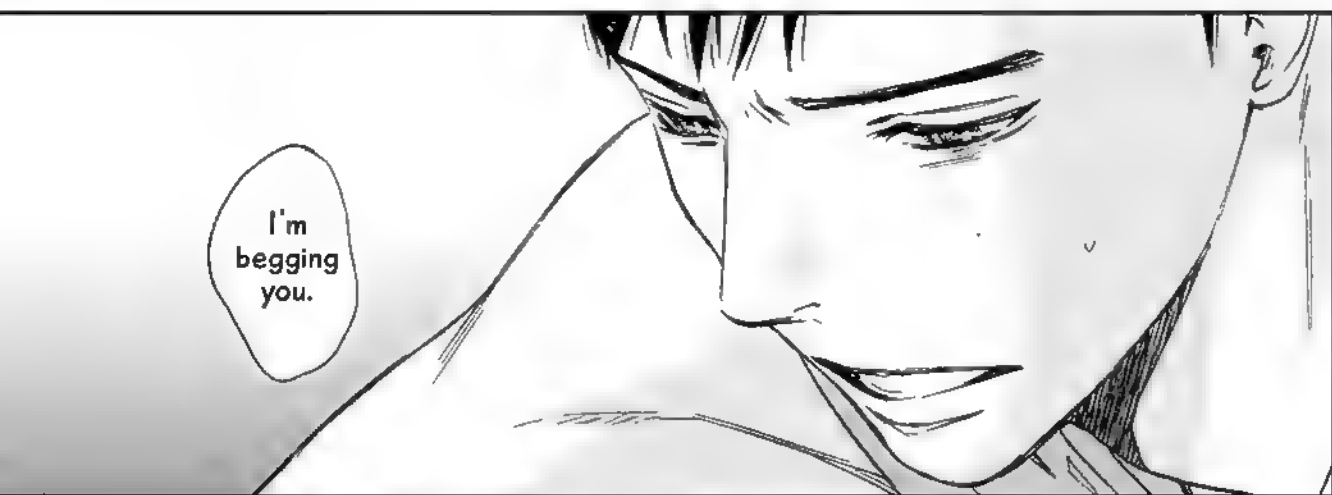
From now on,
I will give you
a mission, a
purpose, and
a place to
belong.



Isn't
that
wonder-
ful?

We will
become
your
family.





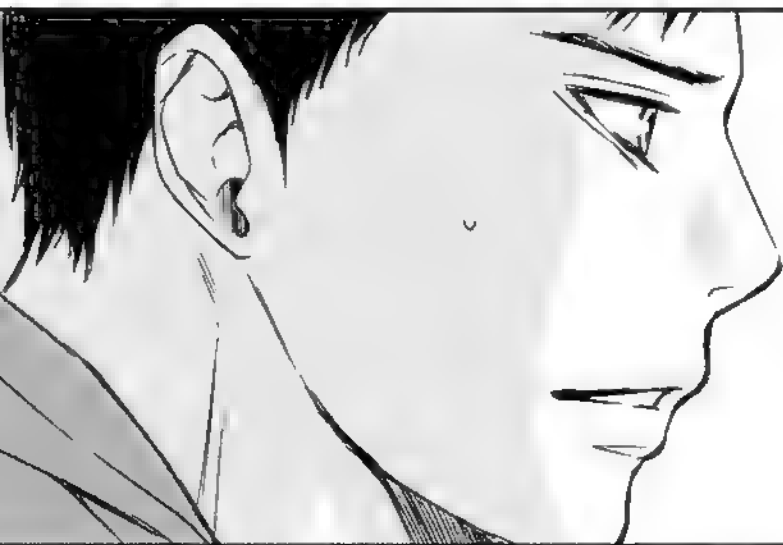
STOP
TREATING
ME LIKE
I'M A
FOOL....!!







**BECAUSE
THIS GYM
IS NOT
A PLACE
ONLY FOR
HIM!**

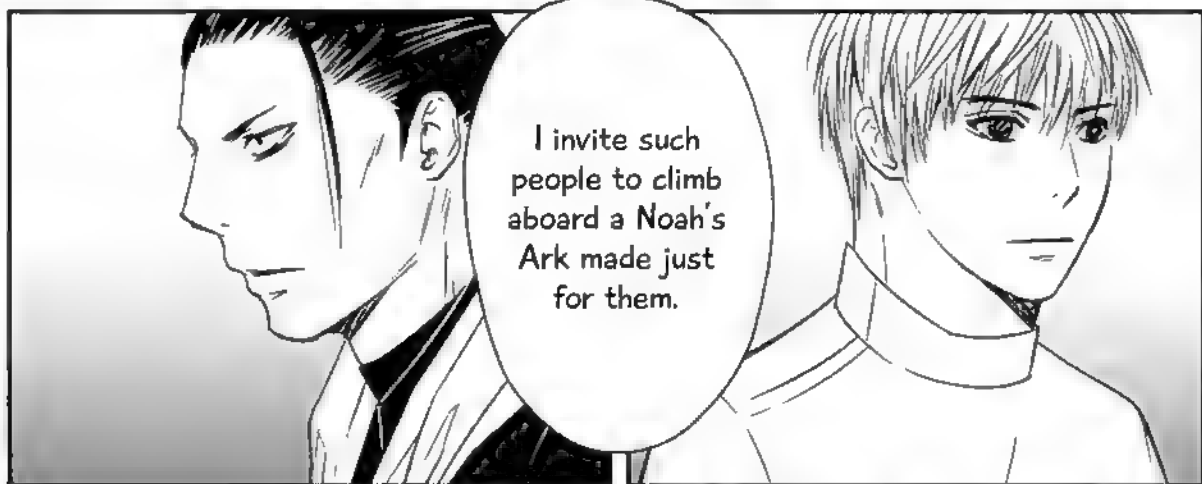


There's
no chance
of them
accepting
you so
easily.





Not with that
appearance
and lineage,
at least.

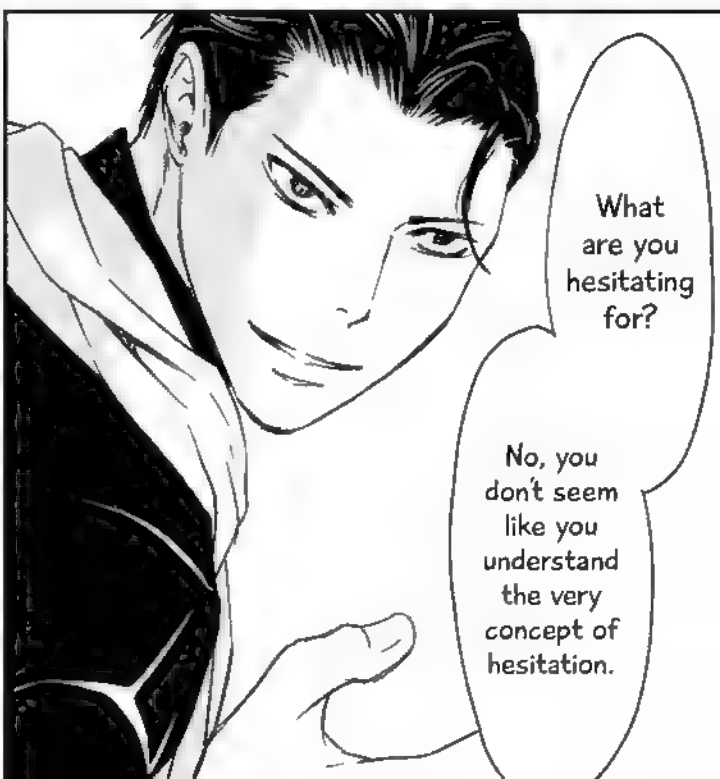


I invite such
people to climb
aboard a Noah's
Ark made just
for them.



You can't
move because
someone has
locked you
in place, or
perhaps...

I see
now.



What
are you
hesitating
for?

No, you
don't seem
like you
understand
the very
concept of
hesitation.

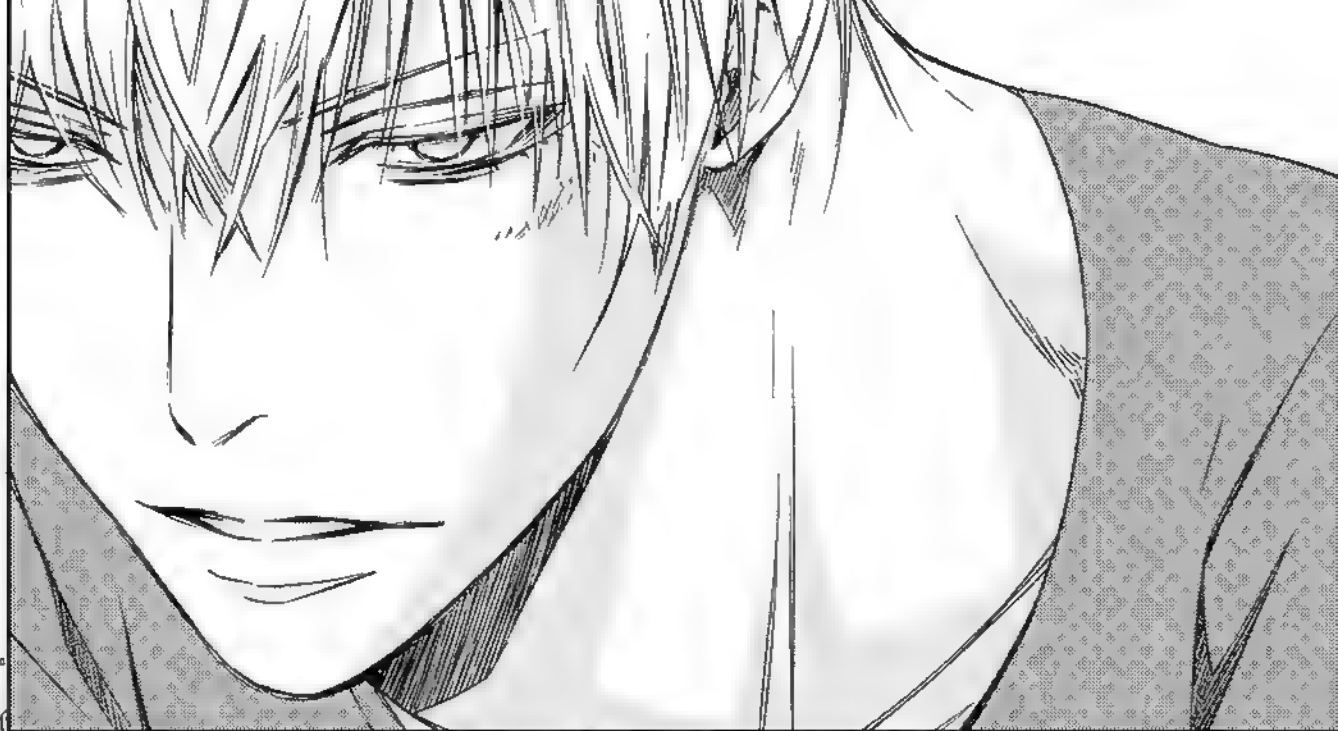


You're
waiting
for the
one who
holds the
master
key?



...Answer
him, Kei.





...I'll be
in your
hands.

CHAPTER 01

RAWS,
TYPESETTING,
EN PROOF,
QUALITY
CHECK:

QUIETUS

CLEANING:

KIMCHI

TRANSLATION,
TYPESETTING:

REI

JP PROOF:

YAGI

JP PROOF:

KANNA

JP/EN PROOF,
QUALITY CHECK:

VARRICK



THEIR MISSION IS THE PURSUIT OF SELF-ACTUALIZATION AND SANCTITY THROUGH EVERYTHING FROM WORK TO DAILY LIFE.

AT THE CENTER, MEMBERS LEAD A COMMUNAL LIFESTYLE.

THEIR NAME IS LATIN FOR "VEHICLE OF GOD."

RECENTLY, "VEHICULUM DEI" HAS SEEN SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY RISE IN APPLICATIONS THAT IT HAS HAD TO PUT A CAP ON ACCEPTANCES.

BUT IN THE END, IT'S JUST A CULT, ISN'T IT?

おのれが学業を教える

THE BELIEVERS GENERALLY JOIN AS A WHOLE FAMILY, AND COME TOGETHER TO FORM A SMALL VILLAGE.

HOW DOES THE ONE IN CHARGE MANAGE SUCH—

MY APOLOGIES, THOUGH I WORK IN PUBLIC RELATIONS, I'VE BEEN FORBIDDEN TO SHOW MY FACE PUBLICLY.



Which means... that we can use foreign ships bearing their name... very handy for our little product sampling parties.

Vehicula is an emerging cult that developed in South America and spread across Europe.

We just pay them a license fee to use their name for part of our operation, but we're a separate organization.

Well, that's the rumored Vehicula, but...



T/N: Hachi here is written with the number 8, which can be pronounced as hachi in Japanese

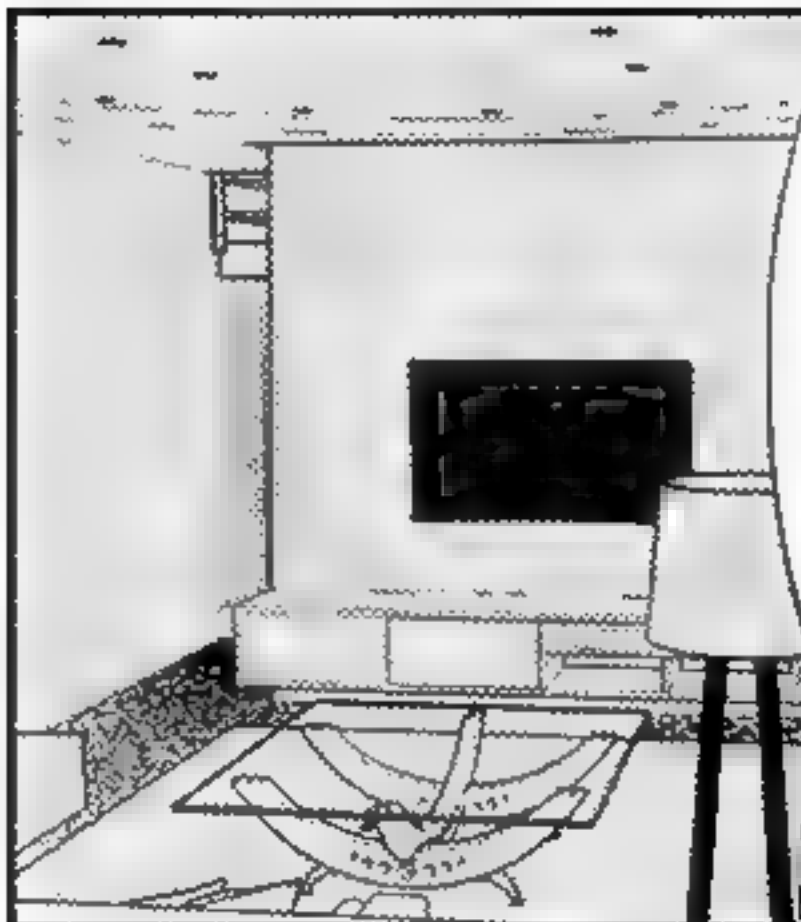


And since it's a foreign-owned vessel, the police can't easily meddle for fear of causing international friction.



Because it's done out at sea, it's isolated from the outside world.

Since we only do wholesale, our buyers are mostly various organizations and select celebrities.



Kei... When he says 'product sampling', he's talking about drugs.



We broker all of these. Though for things like contract killings, we both mediate and oversee them.

Auto-mobile theft.

Bootleg fuel.

Forged papers.

Things like financial fraud through Nippachi* and corporate stripping.



And the work we do is varied as well.



Learn

BY OVERSEE, HE MEANS TO SAY THAT WHEN ASSASSINS FAIL TO DO THEIR JOB OR WHEN WE WANT TO ENSURE THERE ARE NO LOOSE ENDS, WE GET TO BE THE ONES TO KILL THE ASSASSINS. WHICH MEANS WE'RE THE DEATH GOD OF DEATH GODS. ISN'T THAT COOL? IT'S THE BEST, ISN'T IT? I WANT TO BE KILLED BEAUTIFULLY BY A DEATH GOD LIKE ME.

T/N Nippachi (Written with the kanji for 2 and 8) is a slang used to describe the trend for product sales to decrease annually during February and August





Take a look.

That's far worse than what we are doing.



A market driven by greed and discontent.

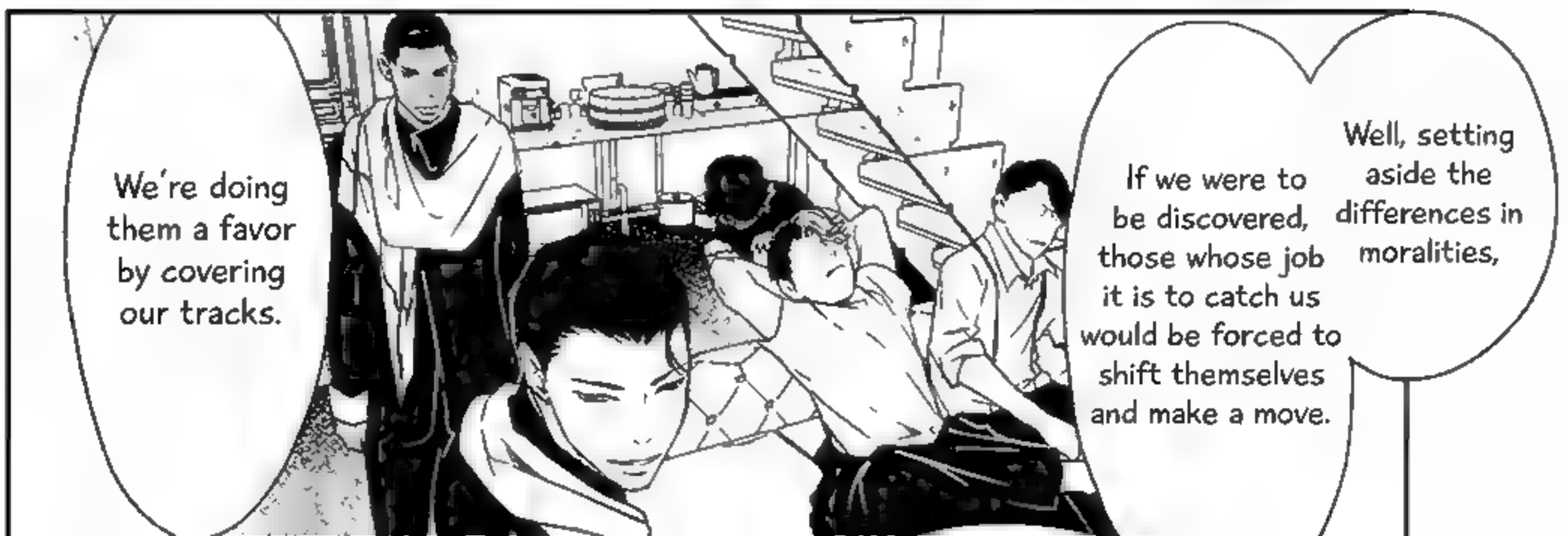
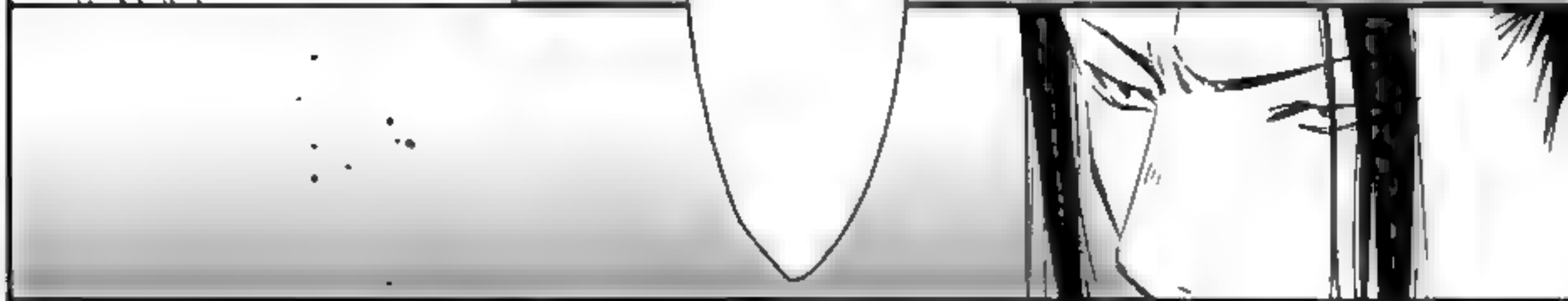
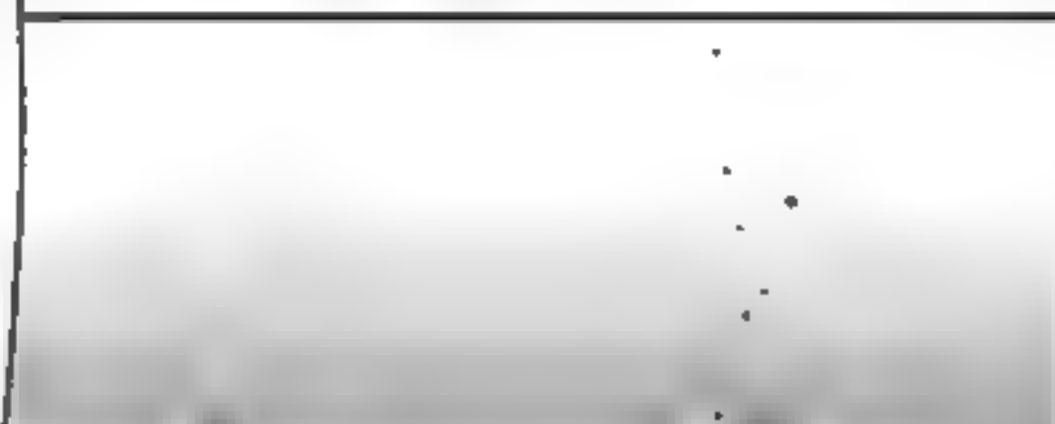
That's what capitalism is.

It is natural for both money and water flow from top to bottom, equally dispersed.

But there are those who would disrupt the flow.



Even when there are children who have to sell themselves for money, all they do is discriminate against them.



We're doing them a favor by covering our tracks.

If we were to be discovered, those whose job it is to catch us would be forced to shift themselves and make a move.

Well, setting aside the differences in moralities,





When I
saw you
collapsed
on the
streets,



And we
want you
to be one
of us.



And so I
requested
that you be
brought into
the family.
For your
brother's
sake as
well.

I knew
that you
couldn't
possibly
survive
in the
mundane
world
above.



**GET
OUT!!**

Sever
all your
connections
to people
who knew
you from
the
surface.





I'd like you
to get close
with one of the
gangs we
broker for.

Well then,
Kei.



A-ha,
he wants
you to get
in on star
power!

That guy seems
to be aggravating
even to his
comrades, so
that's a good
idea.



It's fine,
you'll just need
to defeat the
strongest guy in
the underground
fighting ring...

It's okay
even if
you kill
him.

They're
pretty
cautious,
so I don't
think that
will work.

Hm, I
dunno...



KEI.



WHEN
CHOI SAYS
"IT'S OKAY
TO KILL,"
HE MEANS
"KILL."





**AND
HE
LANDS
ANOTHER
BLOW**

WOW

!!!

**KILL
HIM.**



IN THE
RING,

KEI.

IT'S WRITTEN
IN THIS OATH
THAT YOU
MUSTN'T FIGHT
OUTSIDE OF
THE RING.



IN THE
RING,
I...

WIN.



IT'S NOT
WIN, BUT
KILL.



**UNTIL HE
COMES
BACK, THE
RULES ARE
UP TO THE
FIGHTERS!!**



**THE
REFEREE
IS ON A
SMOKE
BREAK!**

WOW
WOW
WOW

THE
MYSTERIOUS
HUNK K!!
HIS SAVAGE
TECHNIQUE
WON'T
STOP!!

RUMOR
HAS IT THAT
HE HAS
MILITARY
TRAINING!

AWA







JUST LIKE
THAT.

PUT
PRESSURE
ON THE
ARTERY.

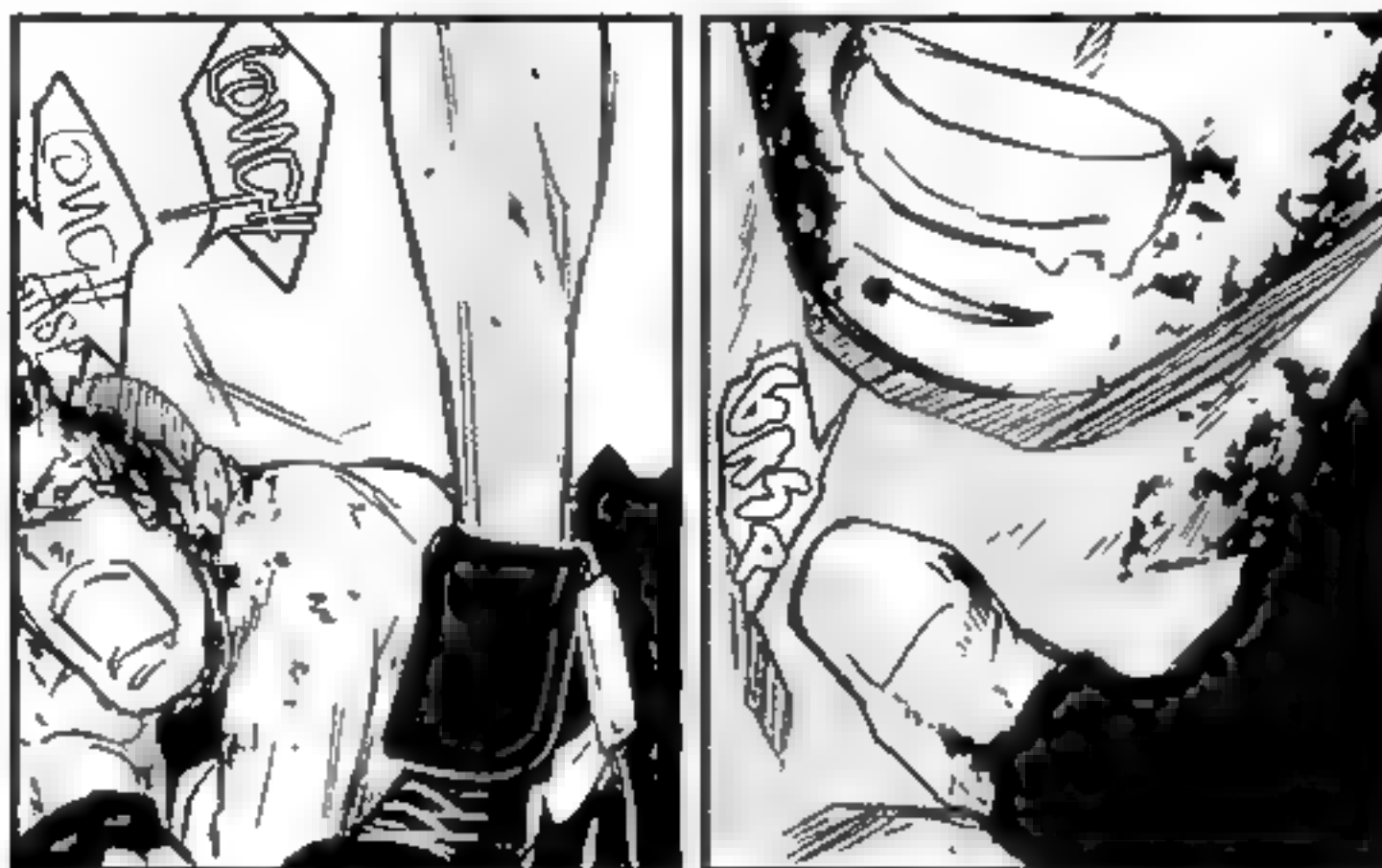
AIRWAY.
CAROTID
ARTERY.



FUCK.
THIS
IS
BAD.

WON'T
SOMEONE
BRAVE
STEP IN
AND STOP
THIS?!

GAH!





EVEN TO A
DOUCHEBAG
LIKE THAT,
HE'S STILL
OFFERING TO
HELP! WHAT
A GENT!

LOOK
AT
THAT!

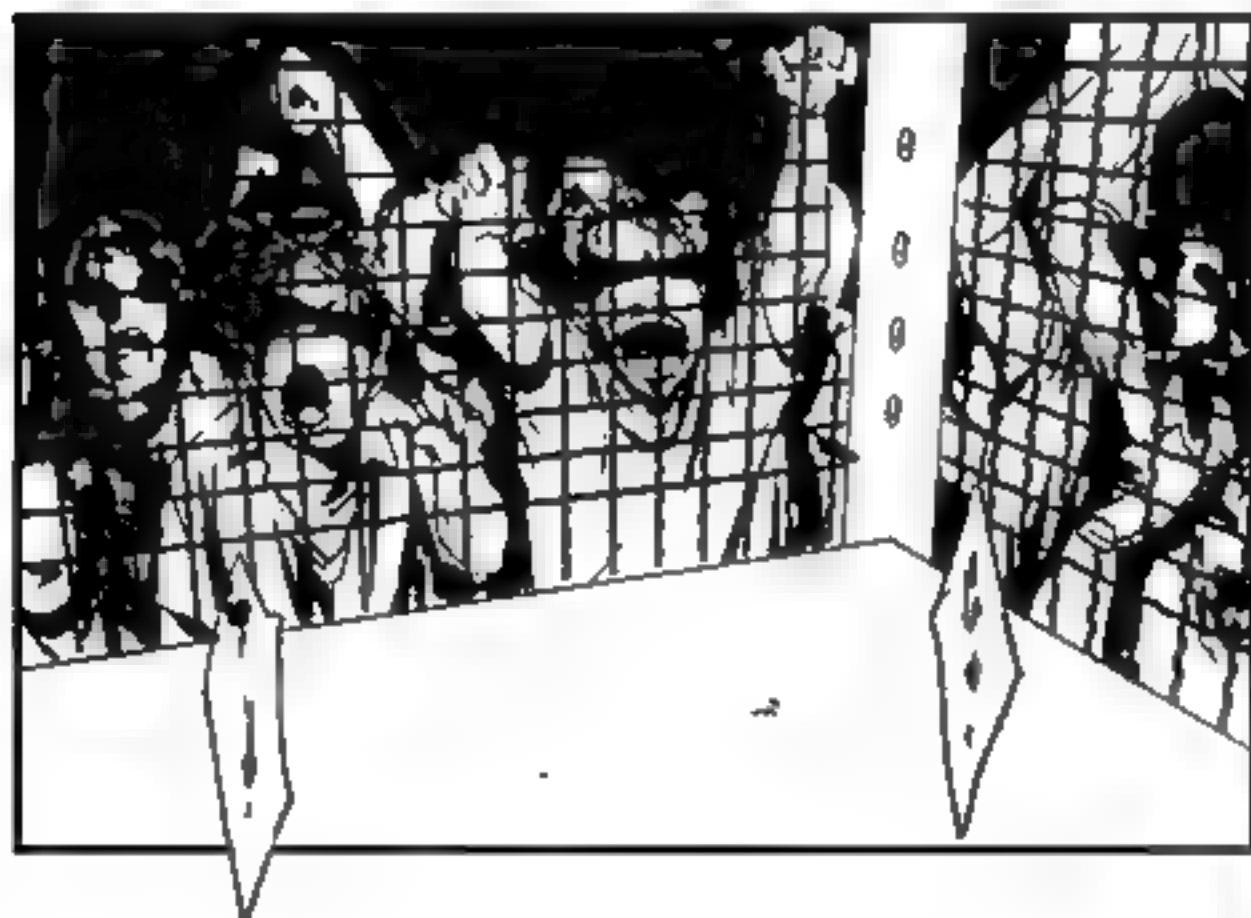
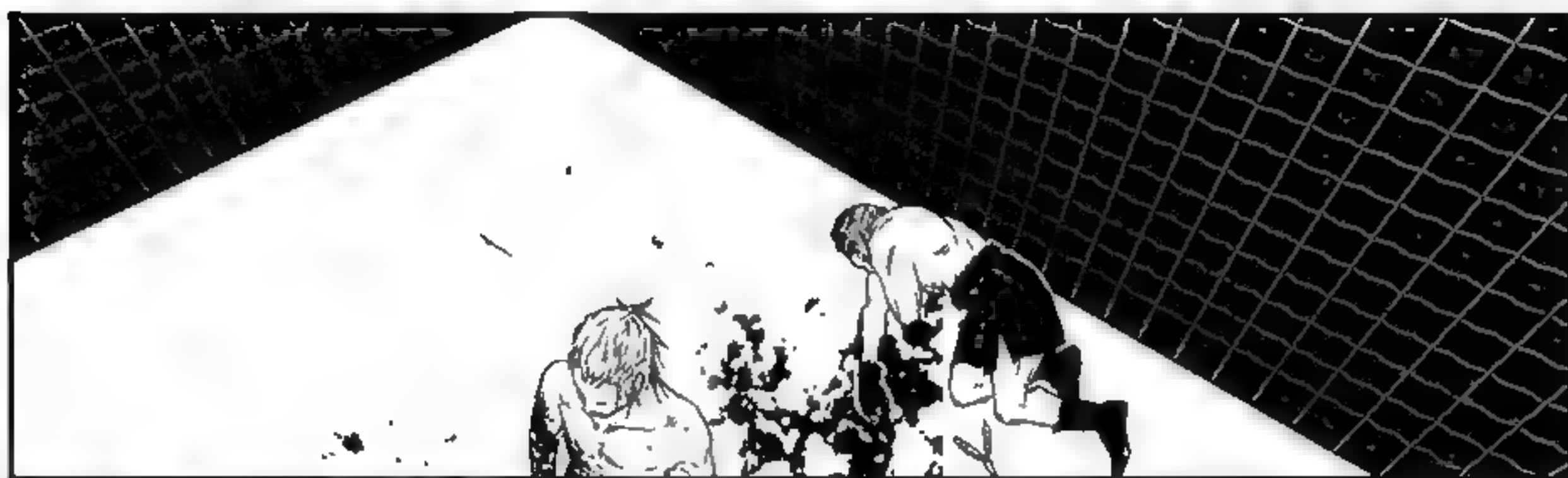
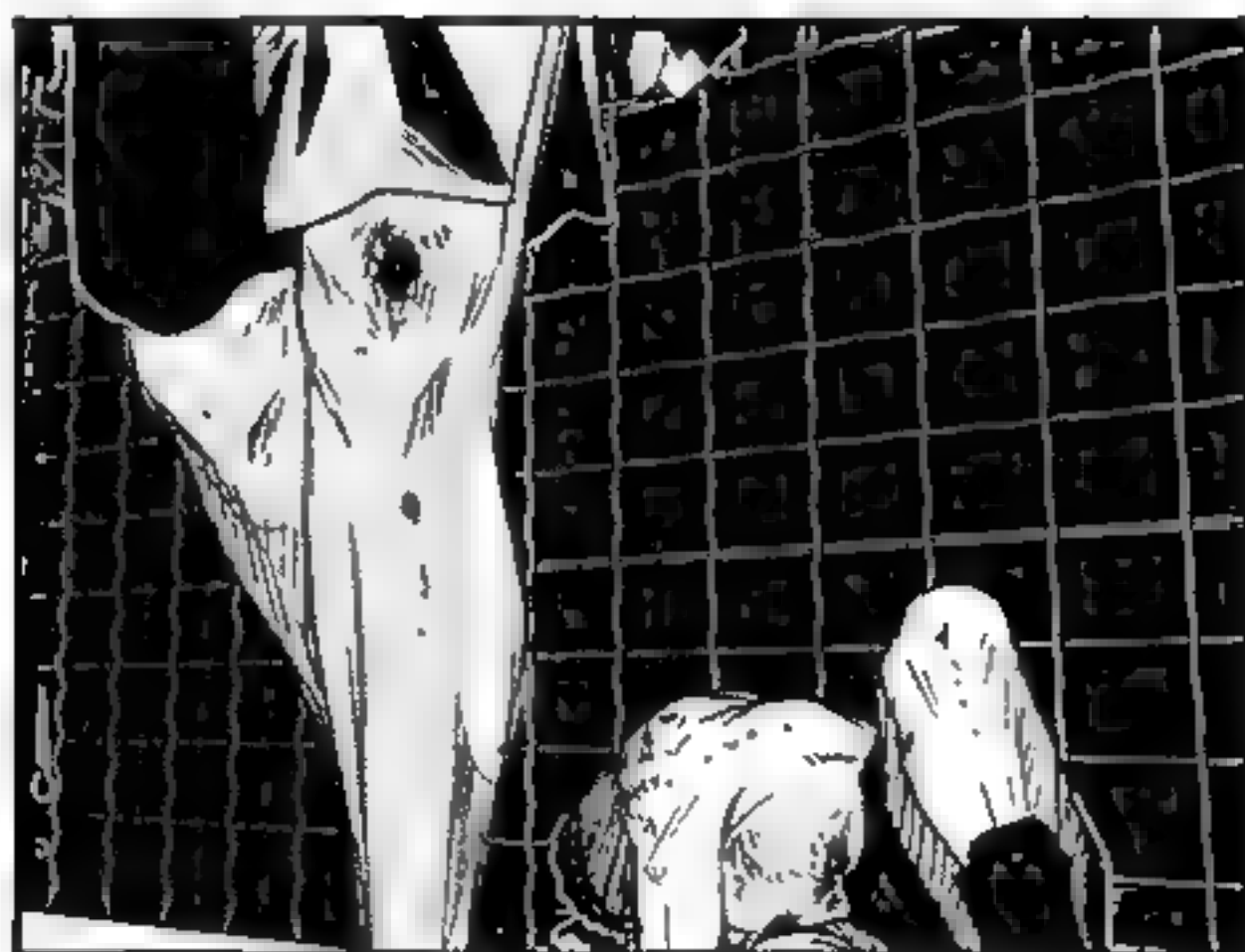


OI!!
STOP
OR I'LL
KICK
YOUR
ASS
OUT!!

DON'T
YOU
KNOW
WHEN TO
QUIT?







**GIVE
IT UP
FOR OUR
WINNER
K!**

Good work
out there.
You're bleeding
quite heavily,
aren't you?

For now,
just keep
your hand
raised.

**THE NEXT
MATCH IS
IN TWENTY
MINUTES!**

**NEXT TIME
SOMEONE
BRINGS IN A
KNIFE, I'LL
KICK 'EM
OUT!**

TELL THEM
WE'LL MURDER
ANYONE WHO
DISTRIBUTES
FOOTAGE OF
THIS...

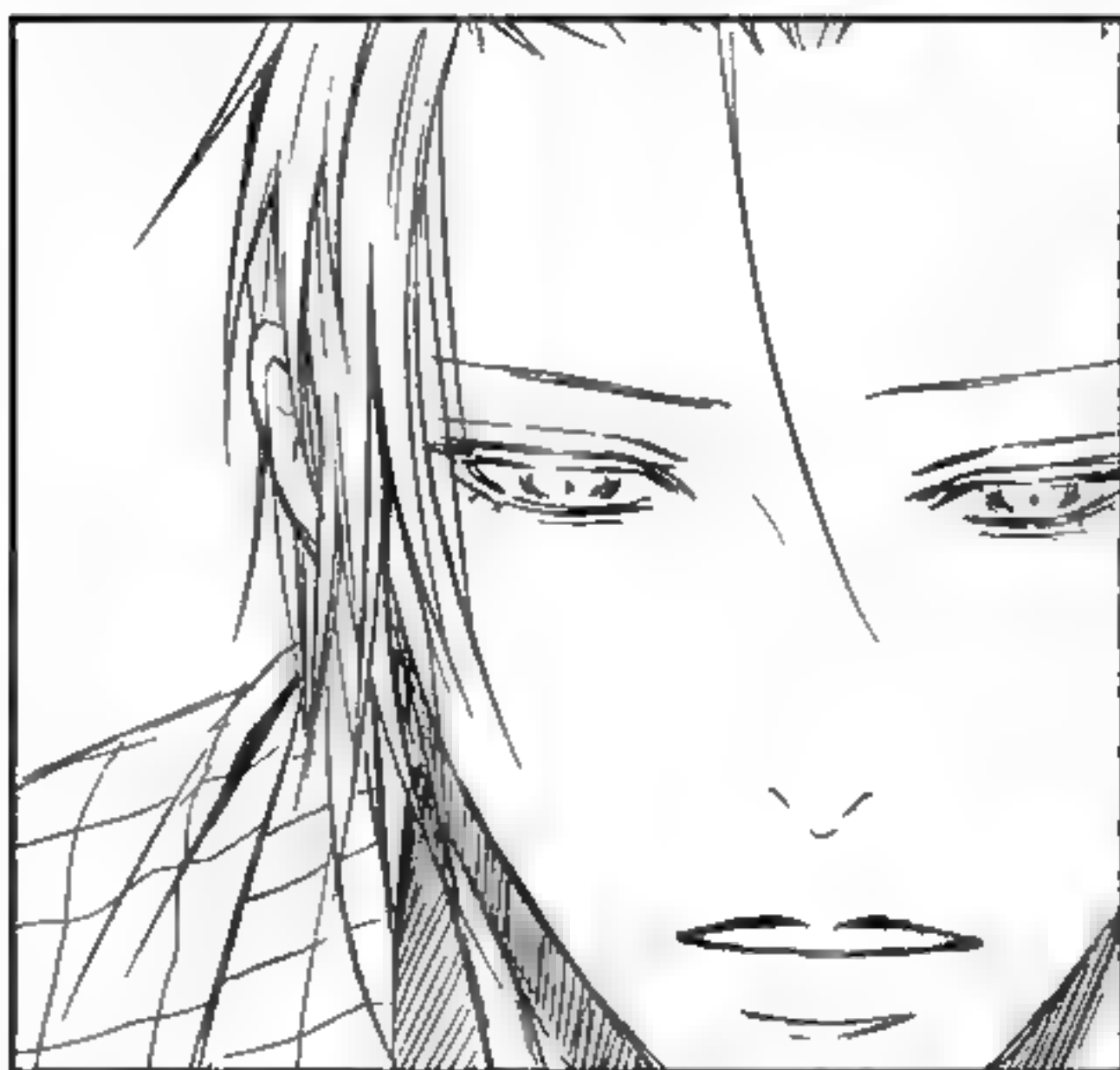
...YES
SIR!

**W
O
A
H
!!**

**HE'S
TOO
DAMN
COOL!!**

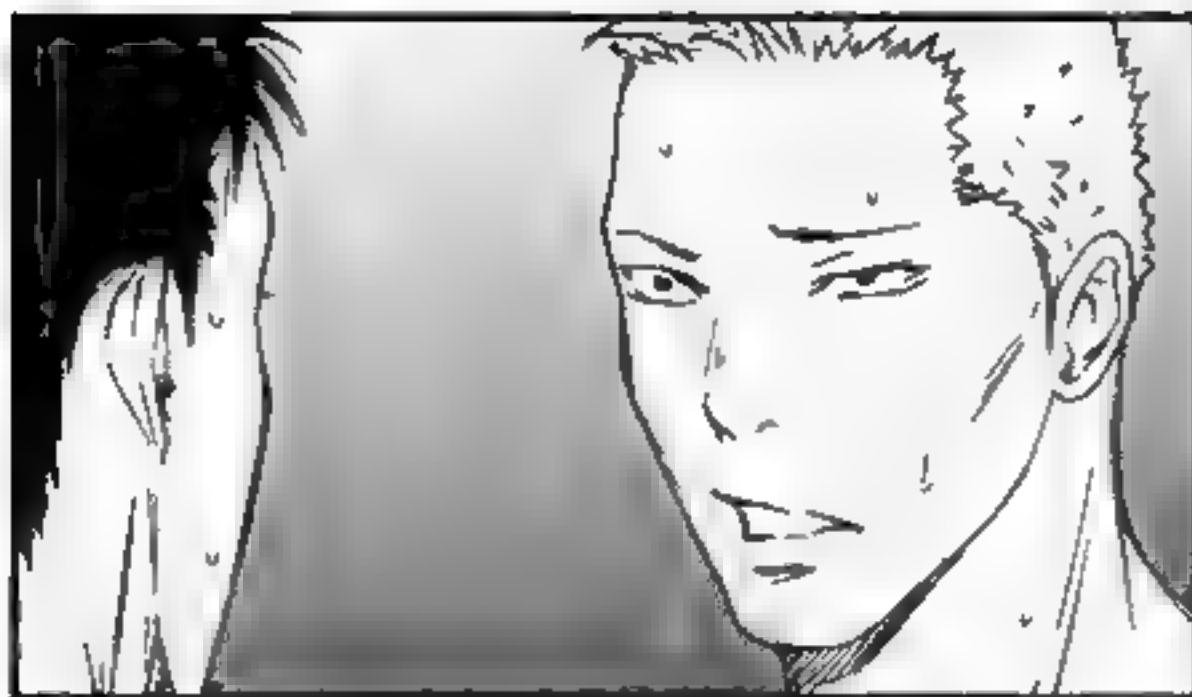
**K!
JUST
HOW
HARD-
CORE
IS
THIS
GUY!
K!**

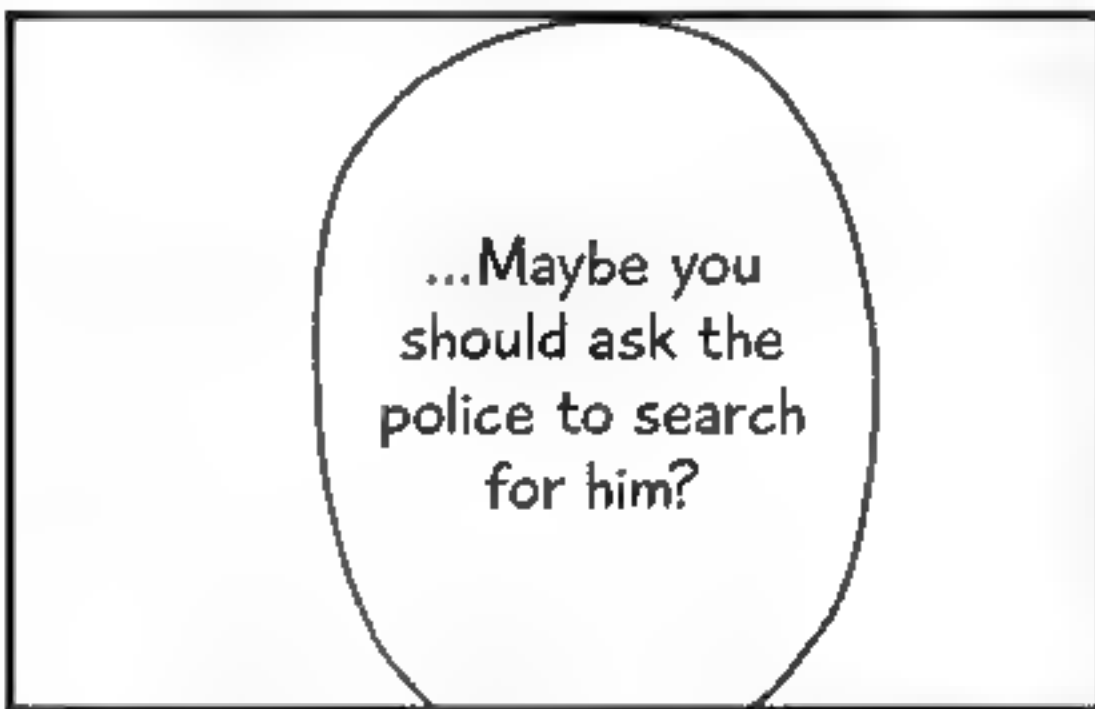


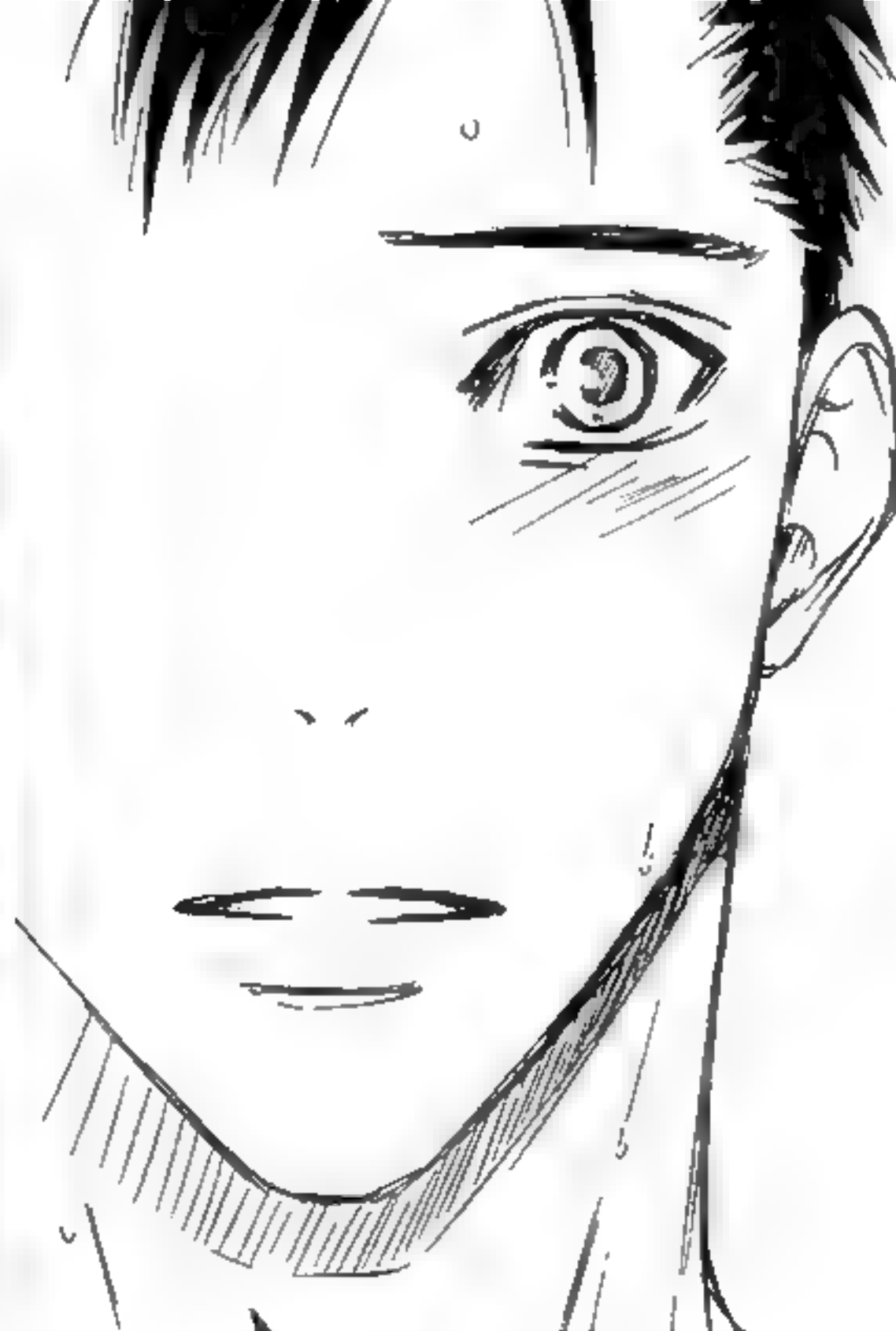


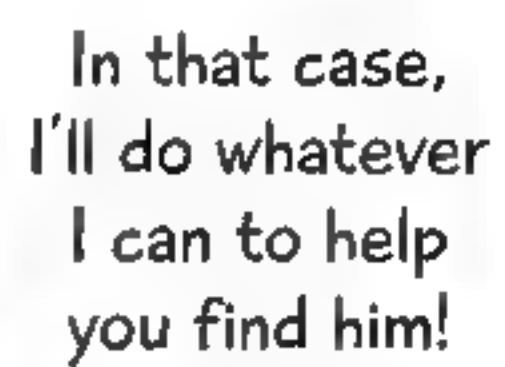
Mikoshiha Yutaka (5)	Yesterday ②
Mobile	
Mikoshiha Yutaka (15)	Wednesday ①
Mobile	
Mikoshiha Yutaka (5)	Tuesday ①

Yutaka-san?

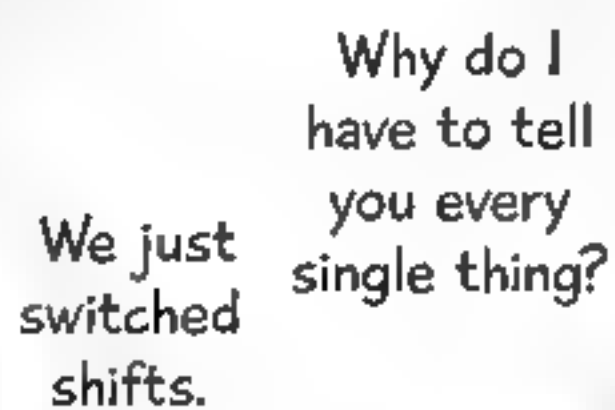




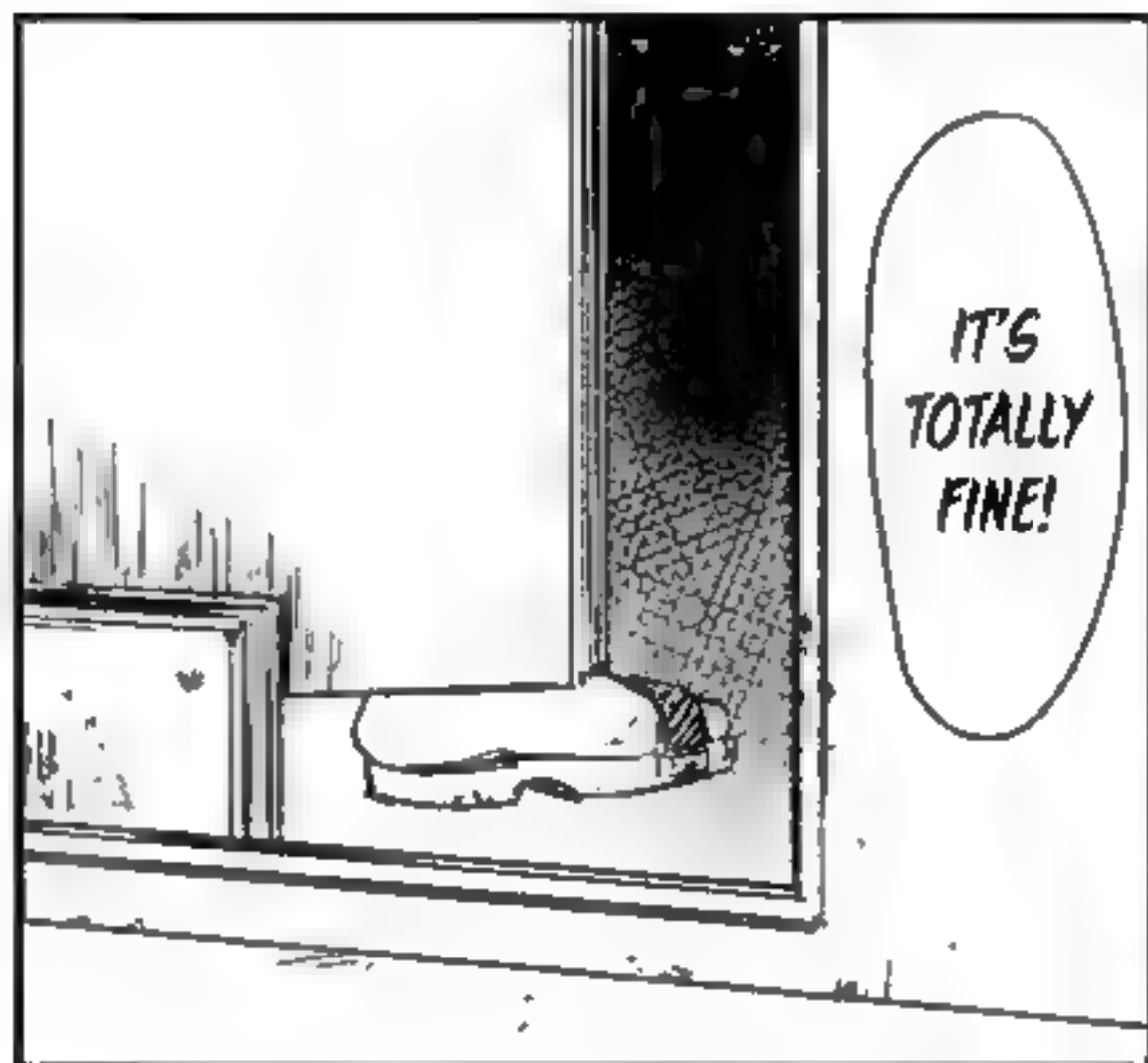
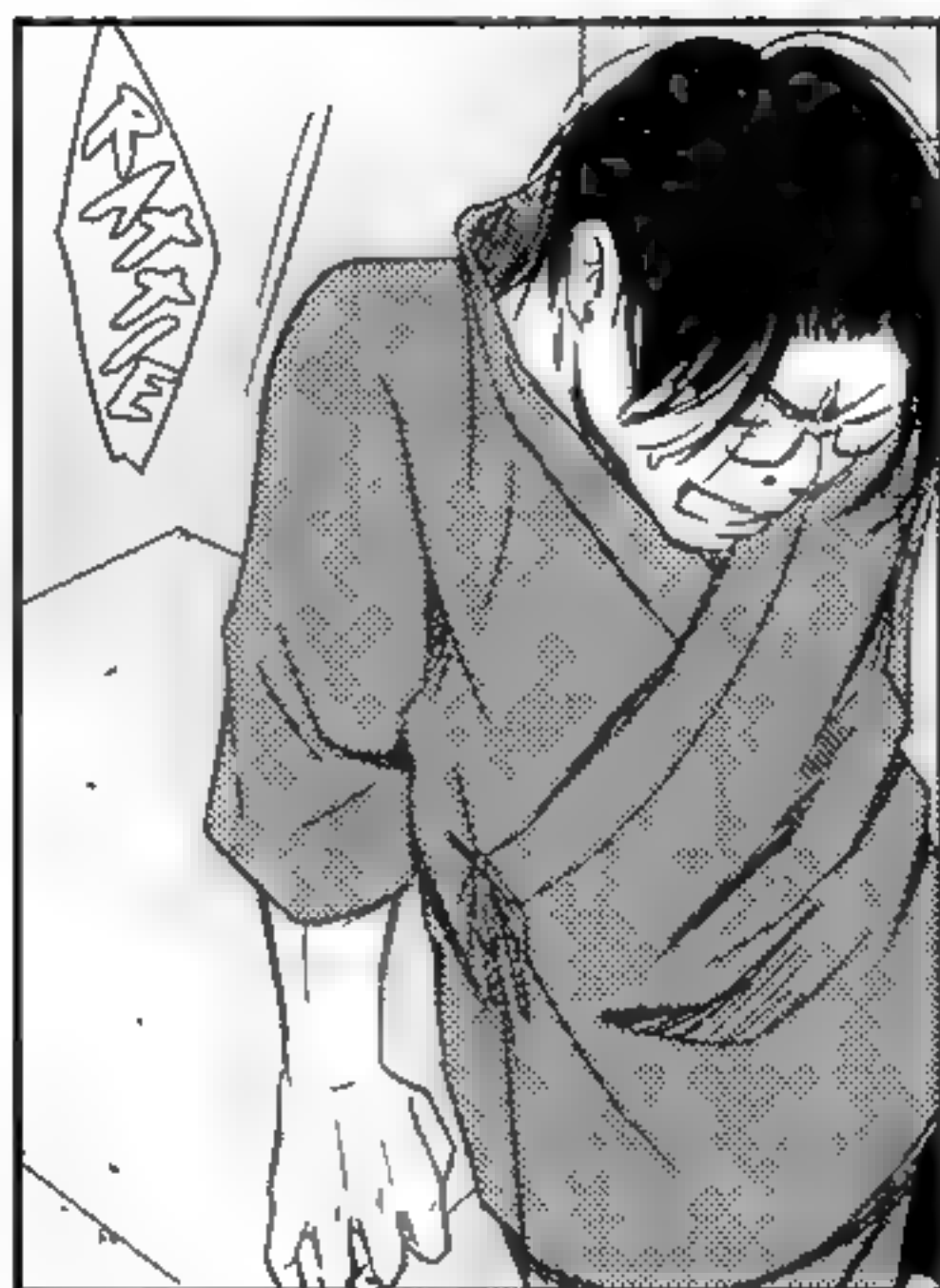


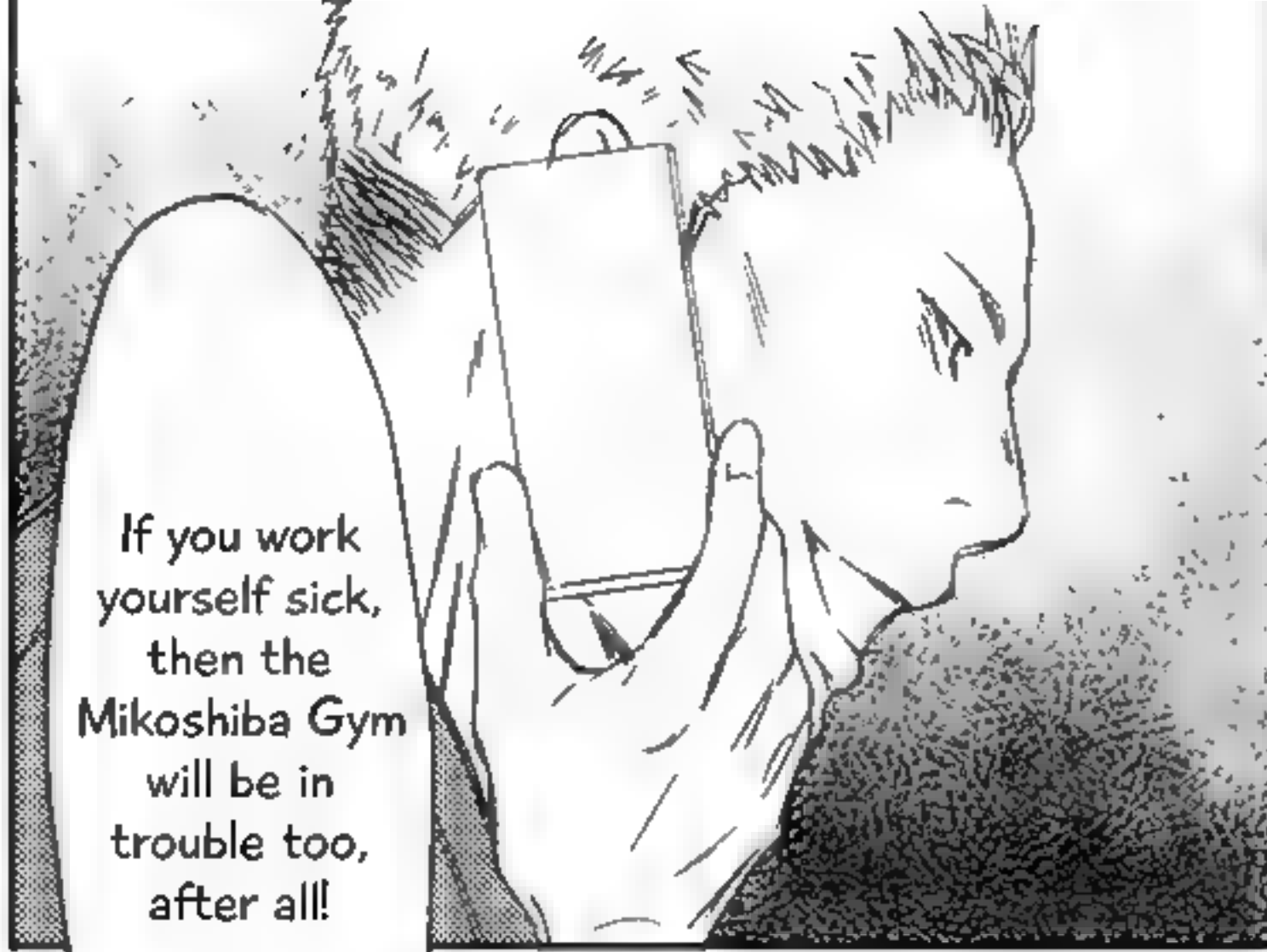


AUG		Matsuo	Honda	Ishida	Morimoto	18 - 21	Off		
1		- 2	Off	11 - 23	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		- 1	12 - 24	14 - 27	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		11 - 23	14 - 27	17 - 30	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		- 2	11 - 23	Off	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		1 - 14	15 - 28	17 - 30	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		15 - 28	17 - 30	19 - 31	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		19 - 31	21 - 32	23 - 34	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		23 - 34	25 - 36	27 - 38	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		27 - 38	29 - 40	31 - 42	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		31 - 42	33 - 44	35 - 46	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		35 - 46	37 - 48	39 - 50	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		39 - 50	41 - 52	43 - 54	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		43 - 54	45 - 56	47 - 58	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		47 - 58	49 - 60	51 - 62	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		51 - 62	53 - 64	55 - 66	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		55 - 66	57 - 68	59 - 70	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		59 - 70	61 - 72	63 - 74	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		63 - 74	65 - 76	67 - 78	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		67 - 78	69 - 80	71 - 82	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		71 - 82	73 - 84	75 - 86	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		75 - 86	77 - 88	79 - 90	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		79 - 90	81 - 92	83 - 94	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		83 - 94	85 - 96	87 - 98	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		87 - 98	89 - 100	91 - 102	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		91 - 102	93 - 104	95 - 106	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		95 - 106	97 - 108	99 - 110	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		99 - 110	101 - 112	103 - 114	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		103 - 114	105 - 116	107 - 118	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		107 - 118	109 - 120	111 - 122	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		111 - 122	113 - 124	115 - 126	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		115 - 126	117 - 128	119 - 130	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		119 - 130	121 - 132	123 - 134	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		123 - 134	125 - 136	127 - 138	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		127 - 138	129 - 140	131 - 142	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		131 - 142	133 - 144	135 - 146	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		135 - 146	137 - 148	139 - 150	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		139 - 150	141 - 152	143 - 154	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		143 - 154	145 - 156	147 - 158	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		147 - 158	149 - 160	151 - 162	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		151 - 162	153 - 164	155 - 166	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		155 - 166	157 - 168	159 - 170	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		159 - 170	161 - 172	163 - 174	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		163 - 174	165 - 176	167 - 178	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		167 - 178	169 - 180	171 - 182	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		171 - 182	173 - 184	175 - 186	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		175 - 186	177 - 188	179 - 190	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		179 - 190	181 - 192	183 - 194	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		183 - 194	185 - 196	187 - 198	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		187 - 198	189 - 200	191 - 202	Off	18 - 21	Off		
		19							



*Because
I'm in charge
of managing
the part-
timers!
Switch it
back!*







Even with
so much going
on around me,



I always felt
separate,
isolated,

Was that
all just my own
insecurity...?

Perhaps
it was...



I'm so
happy...

I would
never have
thought
that being
accepted like
this

was really

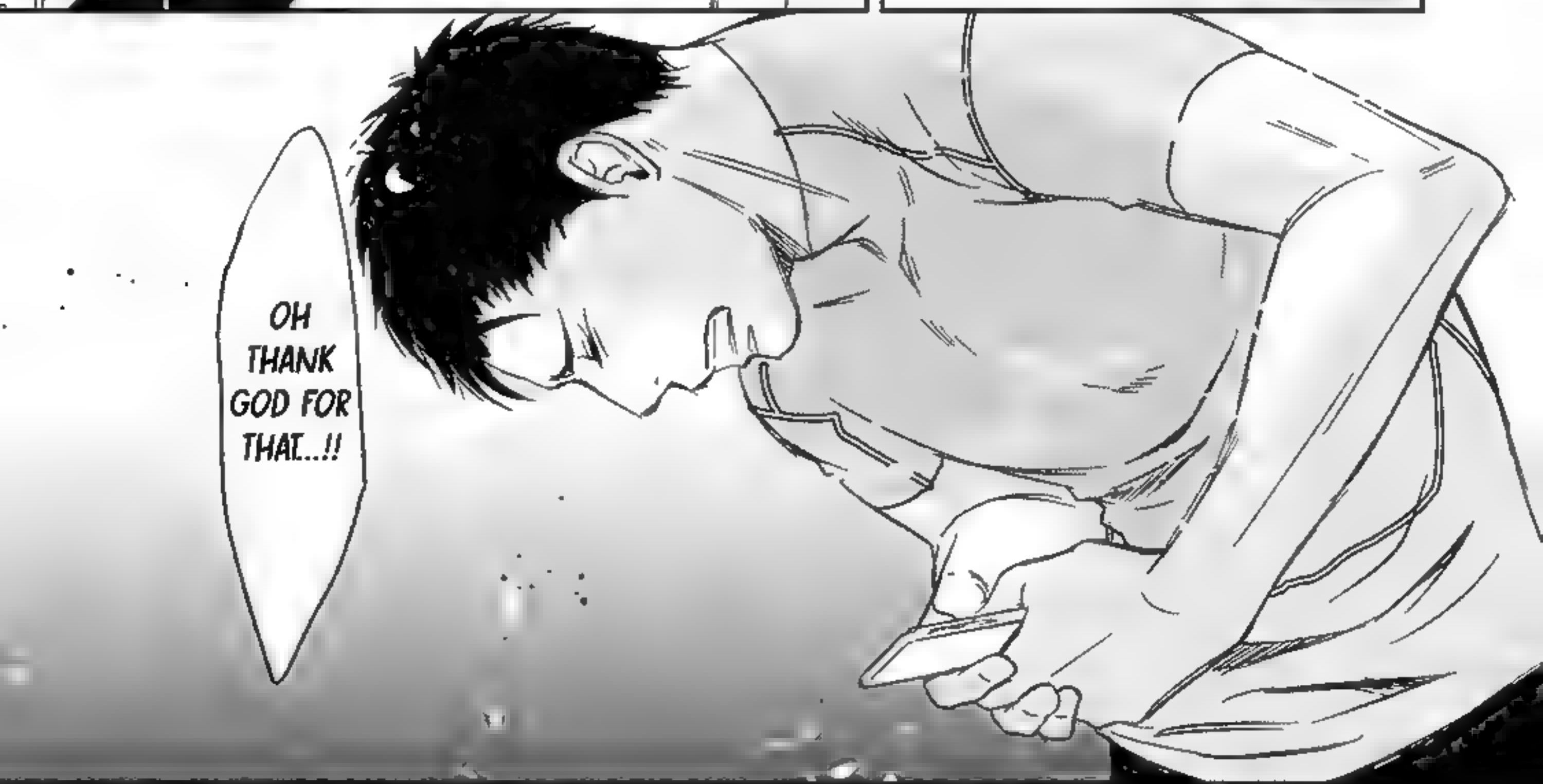
possible.

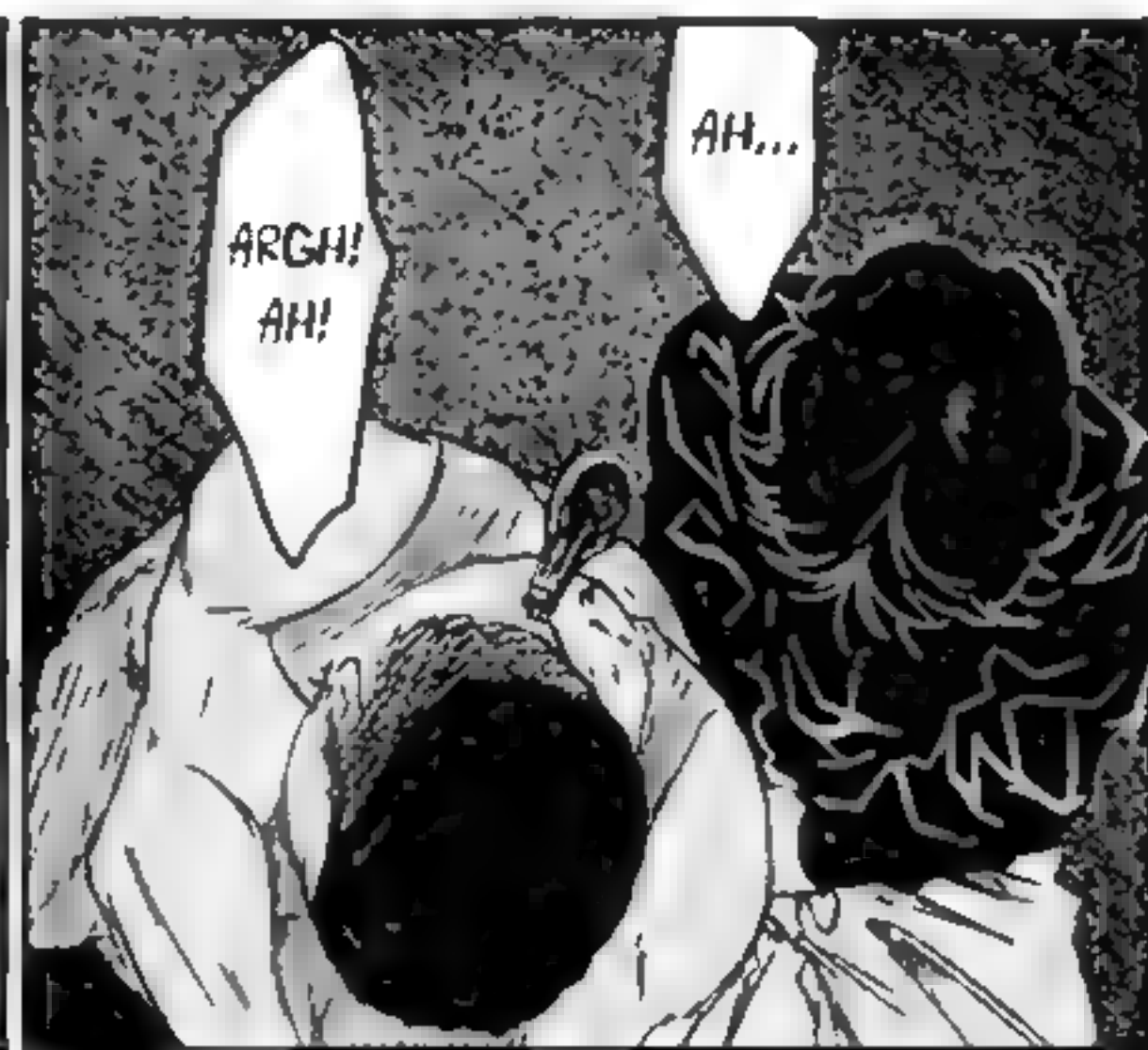
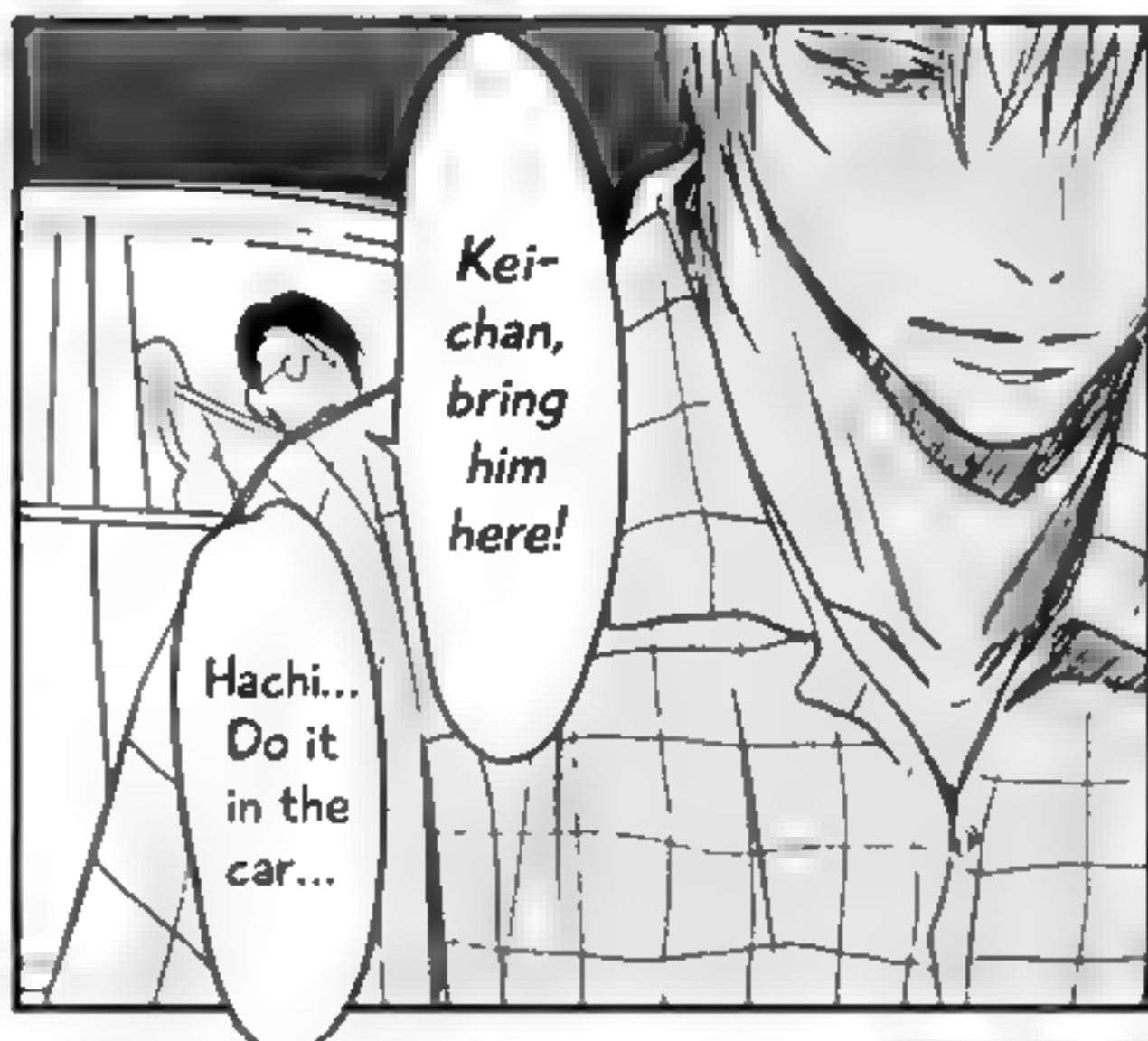


You can
come back,
Kei.

I want to
see you
so much,
right now.






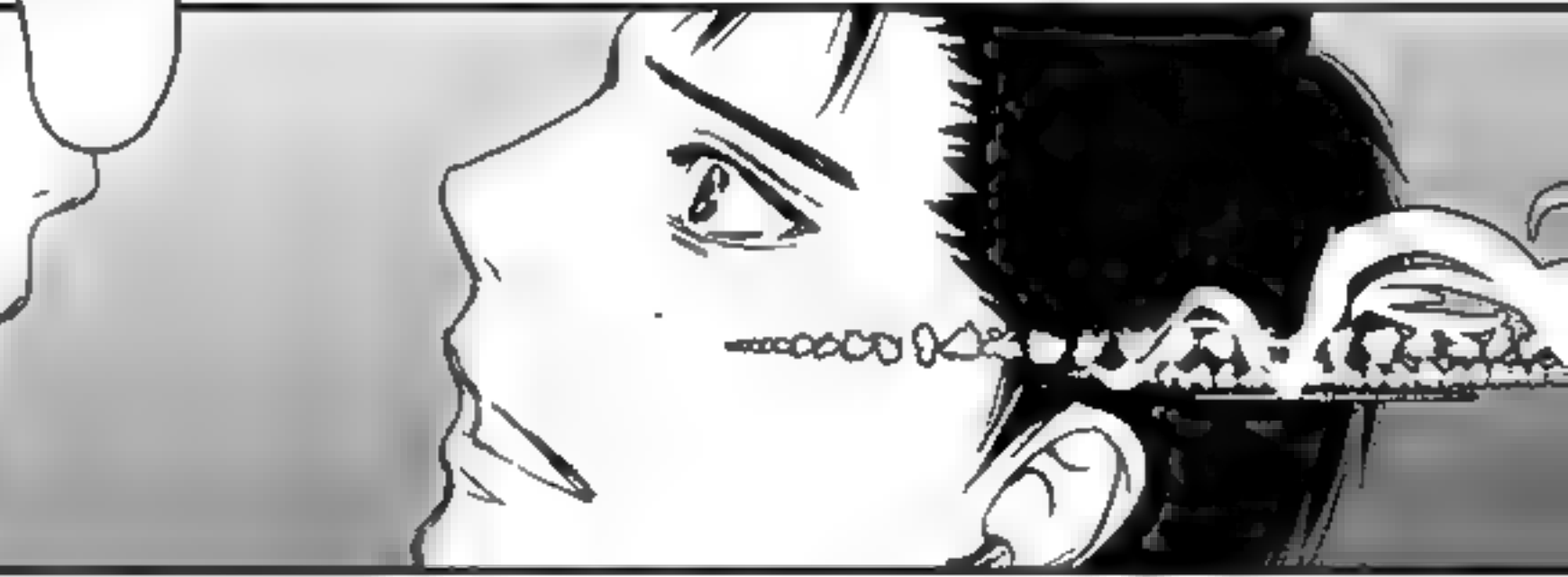




THE REST
WILL GO TO
SAFARI PARK.
WE'LL MELT
WHAT'S LEFT
AFTER THAT,
ESPECIALLY
THE METAL,
AND THAT'LL
BE ONE
CYCLE.




JUST
LETTING
YOU
KNOW,
THIS IS A
MIRACU-
LOUS
SKILL.




IF YOU
WERE
GOING TO
ASPHYXI-
WOULD
HAVE HAD
TO STRAN-
GLE HIM
FOR 5
MINUTE



I don't
kill.



HE'S STILL
BREATH-
ING, EVEN
WITH A
BRAIN-
STEM
INJURY,
SO WE CAN
SELL ALL
OF HIS
INTERNAL
ORGANS
INDIVIDU-
ALLY.
YES, ALL
OF THEM.
ALL OF THEM.



Great
job!

Well then,
let's send
him to get
cut up for
parts!

PUPIL
MIOSIS
CON-
FIRMED.
STILL
BREATH-
ING.

THIS
IS AN
ART.

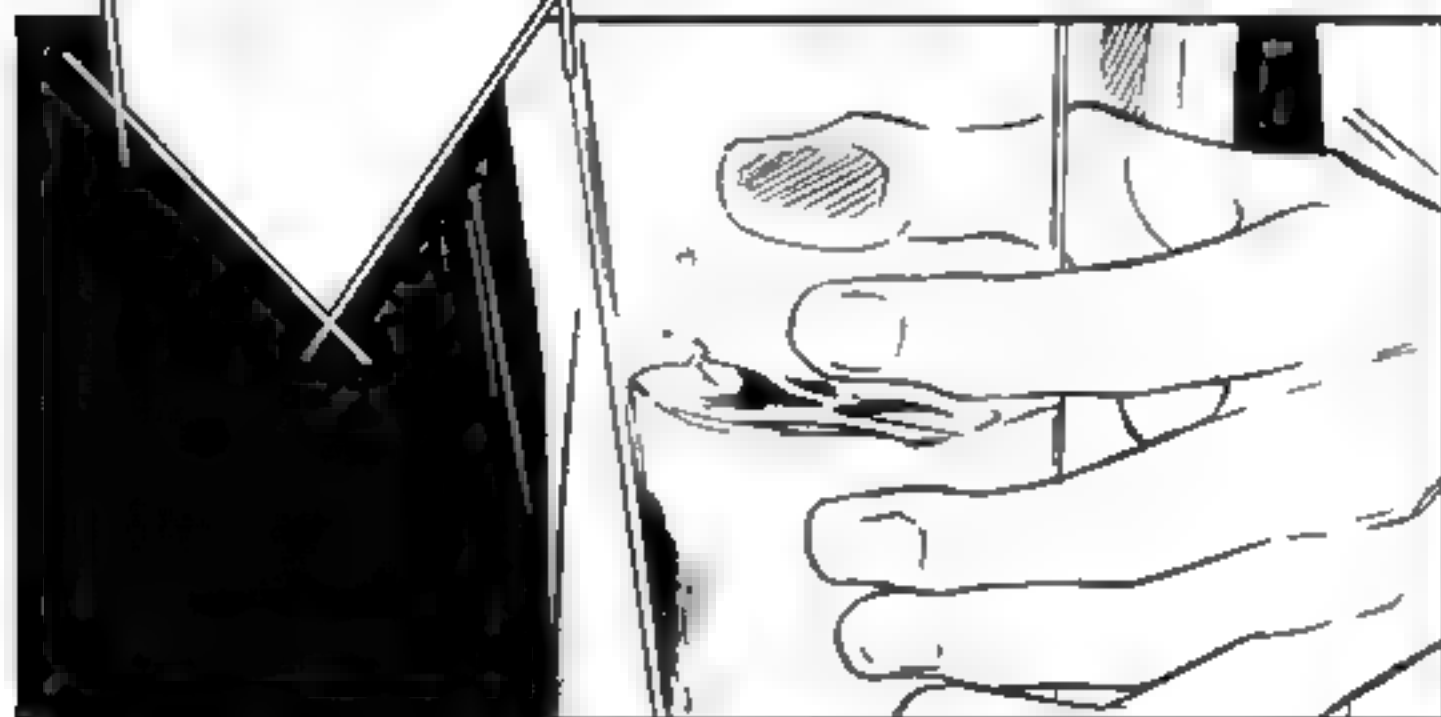






Hachi finished him off just now. Sorry, but can you tell Daitoumiya-sensei that we're bringing him in now?

Sorry to keep you waiting. How was the job?



...It's from Sensei. Can you talk right now?

Put it on speaker.



So... that means Kei didn't obey Kou's orders, correct?

Yeah, pretty much. Also, check out the notification history on his phone.



I see.



None!
'I'm looking
for you
every day',
it says,
look...!

Are there
any that
Kei sent?

It's so
obvious
that there's
someone
looking
for him!

Missed
calls and
messages
on Line,
one after
another.

Wow,
Kei-chan's
phone is
pretty
active,
isn't it?!



He's
just a
shell...
There's
nothing
there.

...He's
not some-
thing as
endearing
as a pet
dog.

Dogs get
attached,
and they
cry out
if you hit
them.



Huuh.

He's
almost like
a beloved
pet dog.

You said he's
like a machine,
but that doesn't
seem to be
the case.



He was more
like a huge
beast than a
dog earlier,
y'know...



Mike, what
do you say we
increase the
surveillance
on Kei?

SURE,
I'D LOVE
TO!!



A ma-
chine...

I think
it's a bit
too crude
to call him
that, no?



UWAAH,
THIS IS
GONNA
BE
FUN!




You can
tell him
about the
wire-
tapping.


Just don't
tell him
everything.



Kou.



If we want him to cough up information, we'll need him to move accordingly.




Make it too tight and he won't move, but too loose and he'll do as he pleases.




Just like a snare around a cormorant's neck.

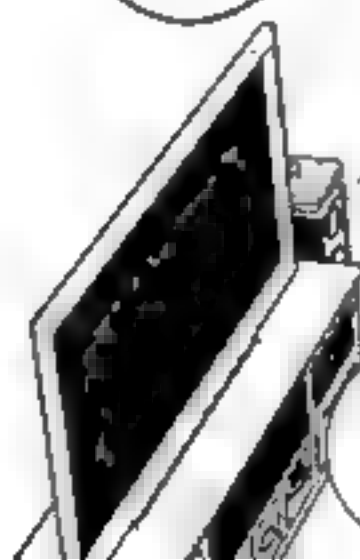
1/N Cormorant fishing is a traditional fishing method primarily in China and Japan. To control the bird, the fisherman ties a snare around the base of its neck so that while it can swallow small fish, large ones get stuck and are brought back to the boat and disgorged.

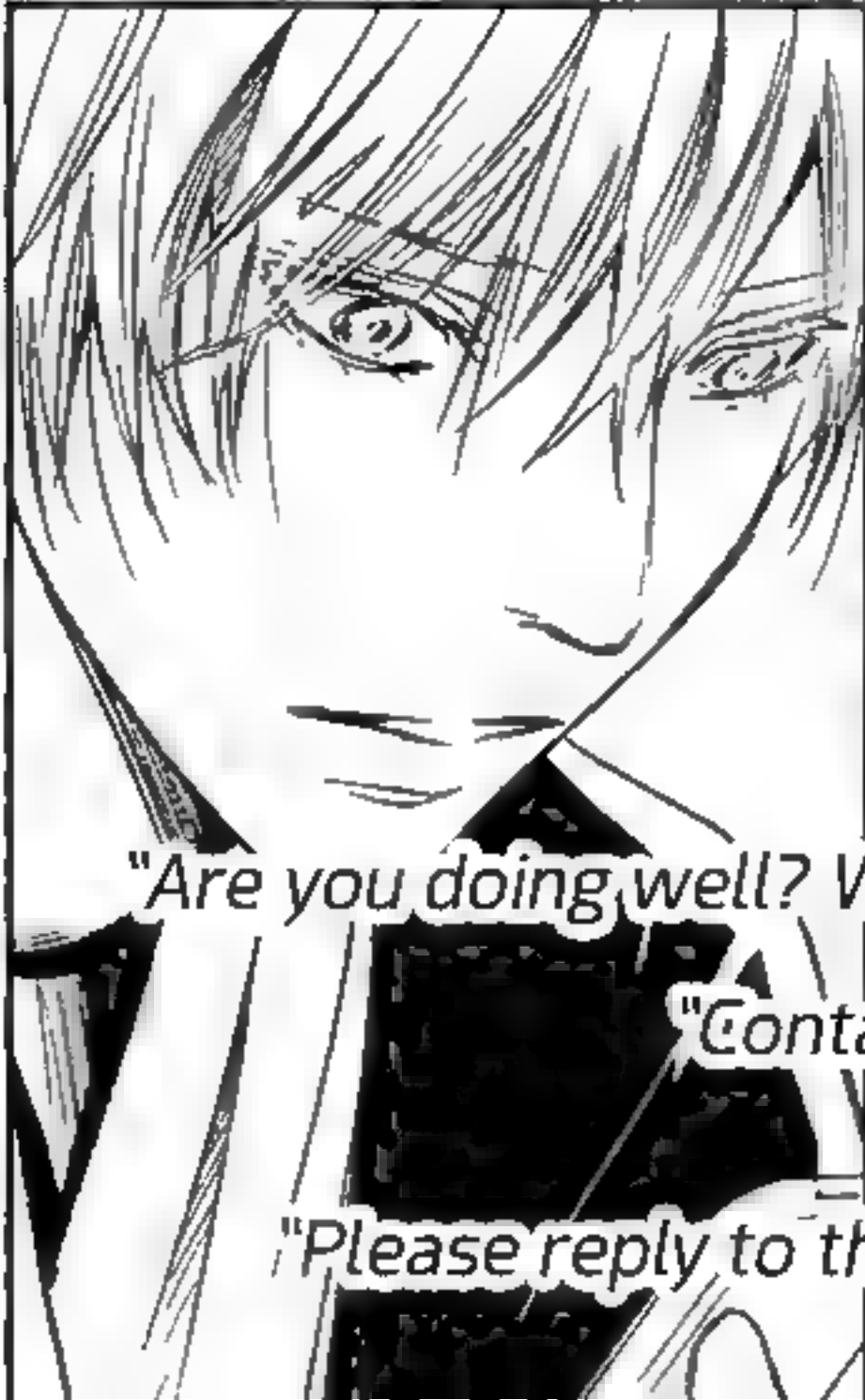


and Kei will remain a dear, useful machine.



Ideally so that Kei's owner won't become a threat to us,





"Are you doing well? Where are you?"

"Contact me when you can, please."

"Please reply to this."

are still going. It might rain too
careful

How are you? I told people in the
gym that you're taking a break so y
don't need to worry about that

I'm looking for you every day.

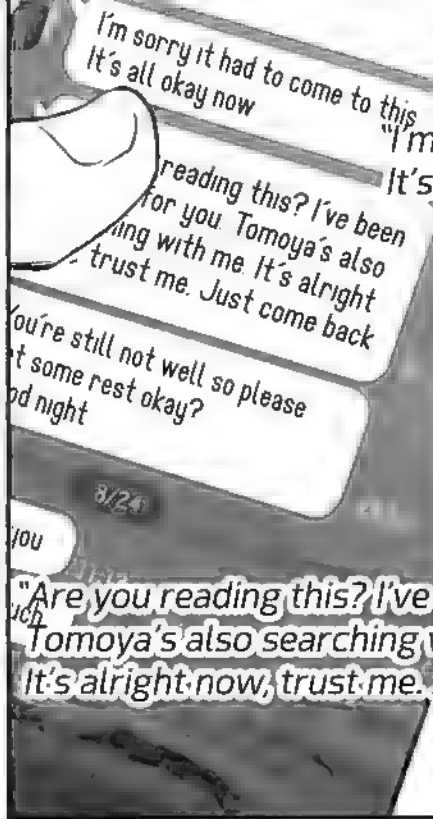
"I'm looking for you every day."

Oh, you r Are you doing
Wh...

Checking the Nar

m sorry it had to come to this
all n'ay now

ou reading this? I've been



I'm sorry it had to come to this.
It's all okay now

"I'm sorry it had to come to this.
It's all okay now."

reading this? I've been
for you. Tomoya's also
ing with me. It's alright
trust me. Just come back

You're still not well so please
t some rest okay?
od night

8/24

you

"Are you reading this? I've been looking for you.
uch
Tomoya's also searching with me.
It's alright now, trust me. Just come back."



8/24

I miss you.

I miss u



"I miss you."



"I miss you."





Kei.

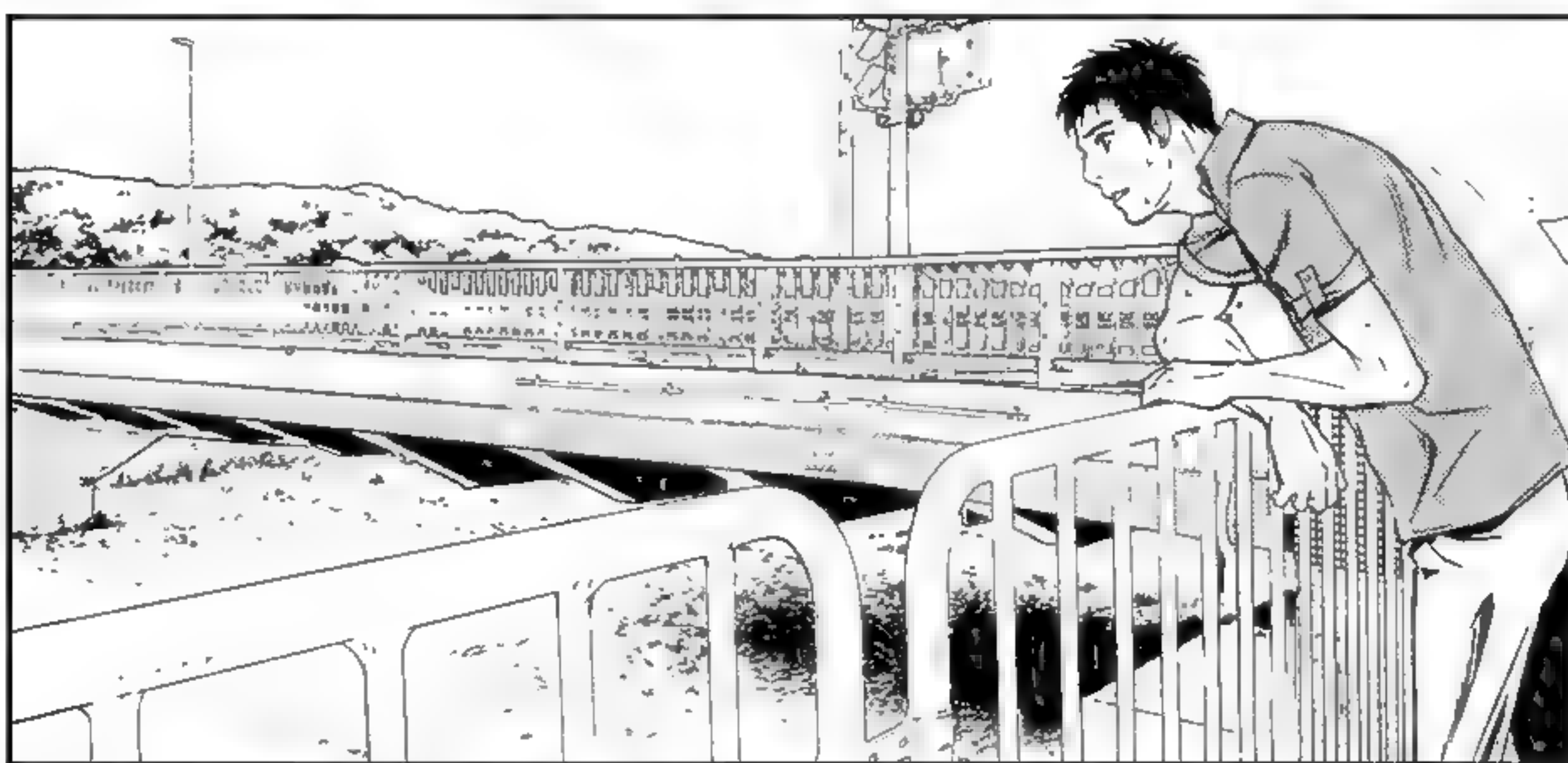
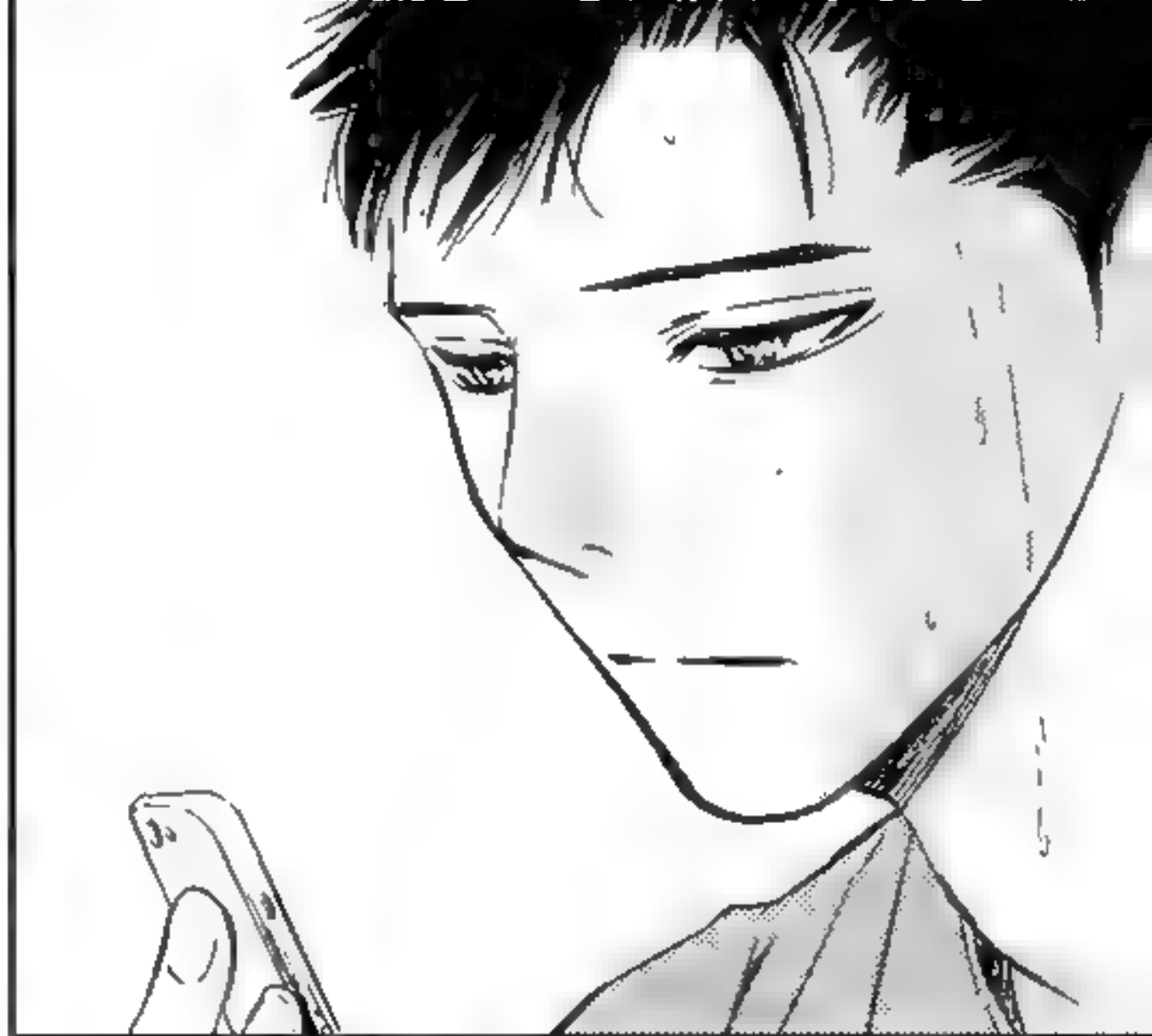
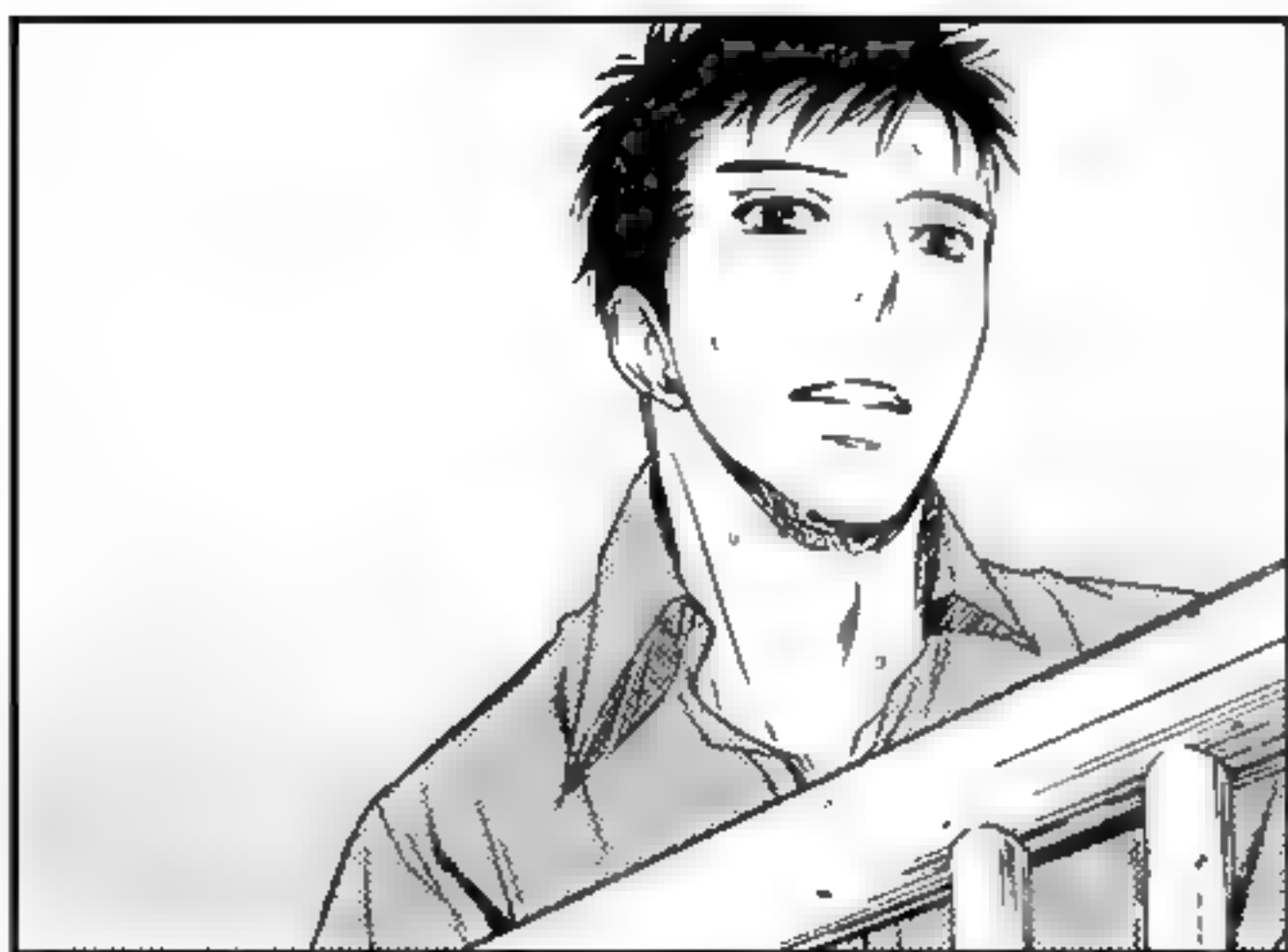


There is
a wiretap
device
implanted
in your
body.



If you defy
them, then I'll
kill both you,
and whoever's
on the other
side of that
phone.

Choi's
orders
are
absolute.



CHAPTER 9

RAWS,
TYPESETTING,
EN-PROOF,
QUALITY
CHECK:

QUIETUS

CLEANING:

KIMCHI

TRANSLATION,
TYPESETTING:

REI

JP-PROOF:

KANNA

JP/EN PROOF,
QUALITY CHECK:

VARRICK

9





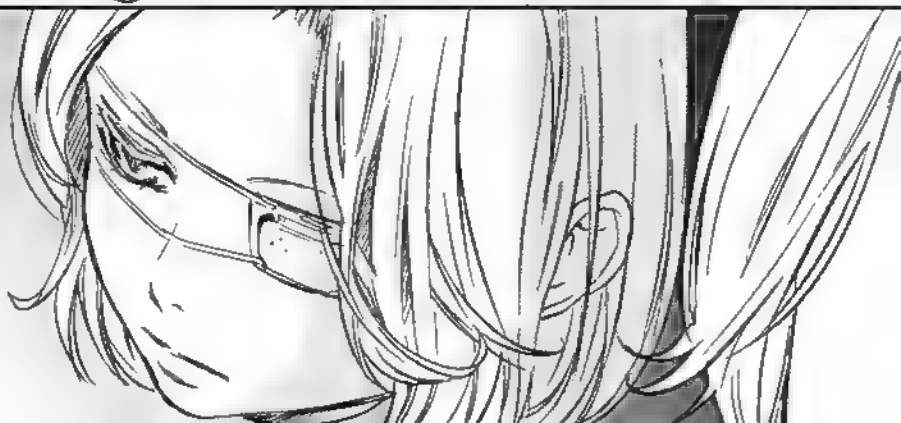
Whenever
the old man
would go
nuts in public
and end up
committed,
I'd get a
call.

It was
just after
you left
home.



He was
so much
fucking
trouble,
I had to
deal with
him for
good.

**YOU MUST
HAVE WANTED
THAT SON OF
A BITCH DEAD
TOO.**







SHOULD I
TELL YOU
JUST WHAT
HE PUT YOU
THROUGH?!

WHAT'S
THIS?

DO YOU
ACTUALLY
HAVE LOVE
FOR THAT
PIECE-OF-
SHIT OLD
MAN?!!



HE
SHOVED
A KNIFE
HANDLE

RIGHT
UP
YOUR
ASS,

AND TOLD
YOU "IF
YOU THRASH
AROUND,
YOU'LL END
UP STABBING
YOUR
FATHER,"
AND
LAUGHED!!

ALL
THIS TO
A FOUR
YEAR
OLD
BRAT!!

HA-
HA-
HA!!

BUT A
FUCKING
KITCHEN
KNIFE!!

YOUR
FIRST TIME
WASN'T
WITH A MAN
OR A
WOMAN,

JESUS!!
WHAT
THE
FUCK?!!





TO
COMPLETELY
FORGET
EVERYTHING,

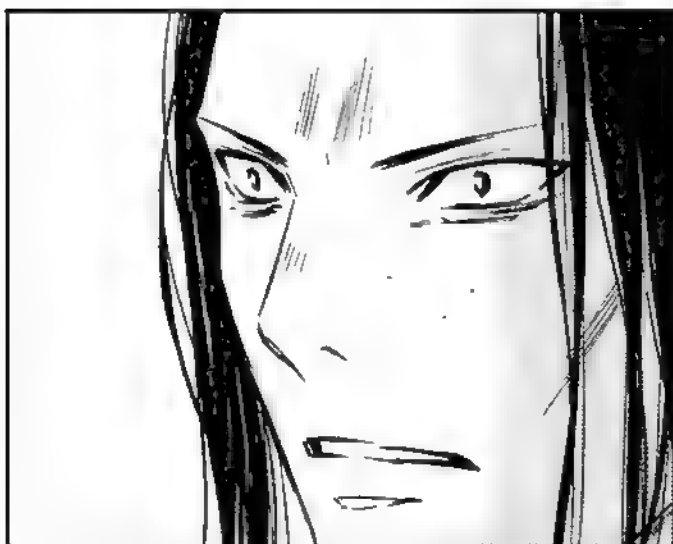
MUST
BE NICE,
HUH?

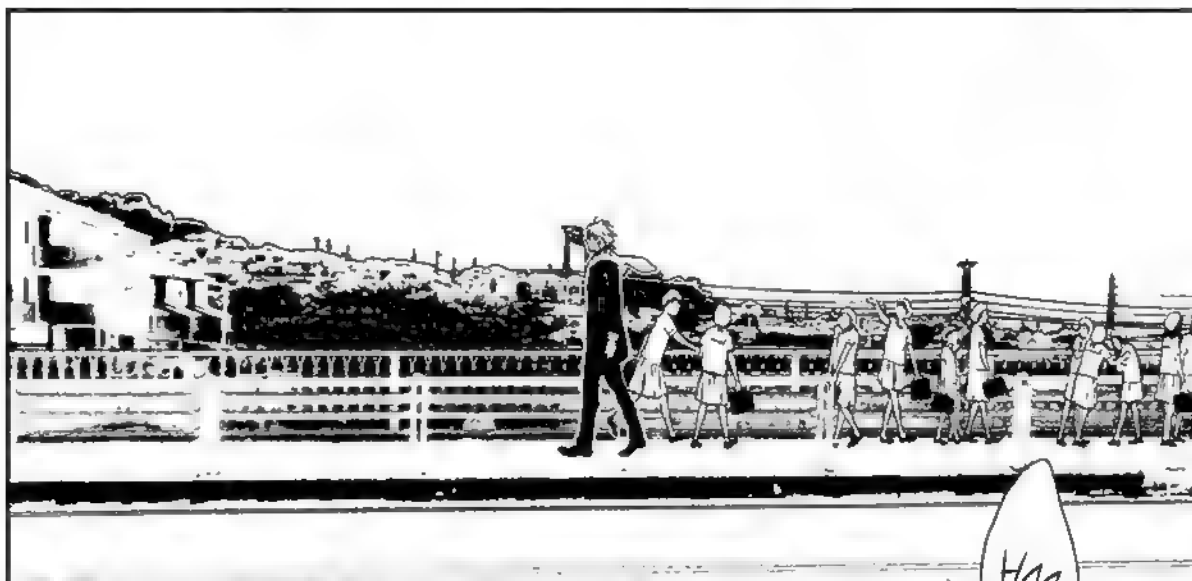


YOU JUST
SHOVED
ALL THE
ANNOYING
PARTS
TO ME!


FEELING NO
MURDEROUS
HATRED OR
VICIOUS
GRUDGES...












FOR HOW
MUCH?



One day, one day, I'm gonna...



SO IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.



BUT
I'D BE
HANDING
THE
MONEY
TO YOU
ANYWAY,

OH..

JUST LIKE MY FATHER



I'M
GOING
CRAZY.

IT'S ALL
YOUR
FAULT...



I'M THE
ONLY ONE
LOSING MY
SHIT.

YOU'RE THE
FUCKED-UP
ONE, AND
YET...

DOING NOTHING BUT MAKING OTHER MEN FEEL GOOD. YOU'RE MINE. MIN

YOUR EYES. SHOVE INTO YOU, STIR YOU UP UNTIL YOU BREAK, SO THAT NO ONE CAN

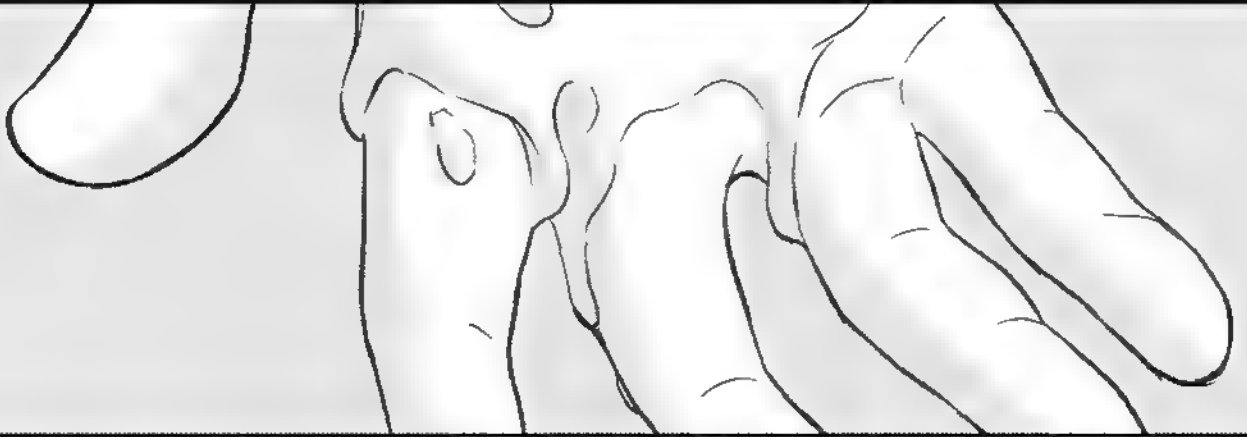


ANIK?

JUST
GO LIVE
HOWEVER
YOU
WANT.

SHOULD

YOU..





BANG BANG





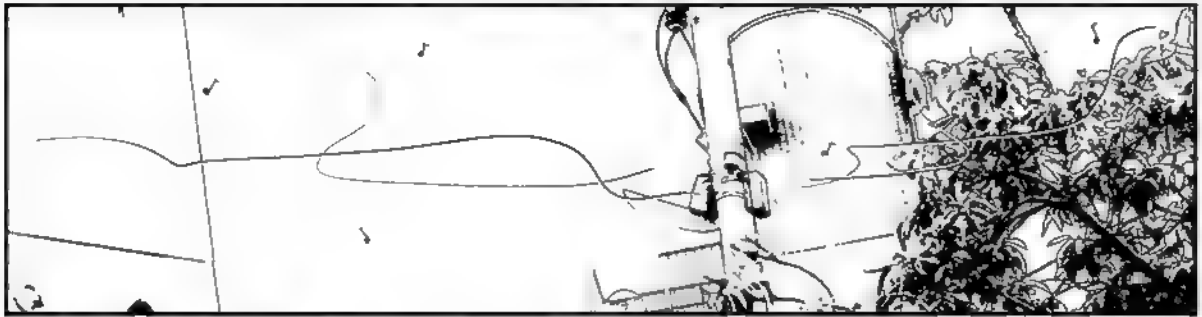




I miss you
ell so
Right now I'm on the riverbank by the
main road. Where are you?

16:23
you reply to this... Please
enough.





I need to
prepare
dinner and
clean up the
gym soon.





K-

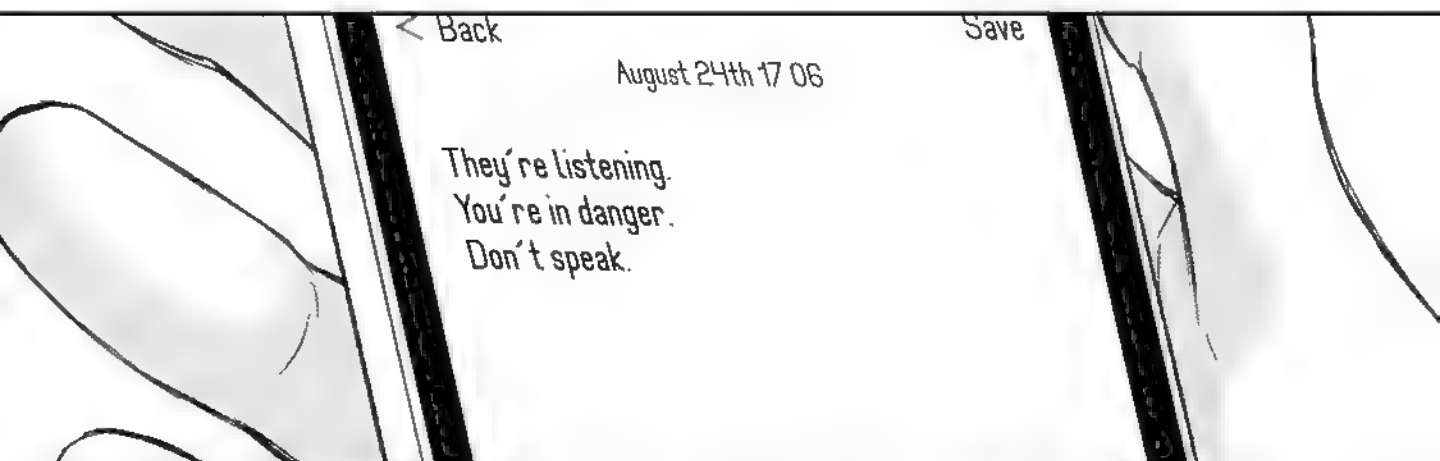
KEI.



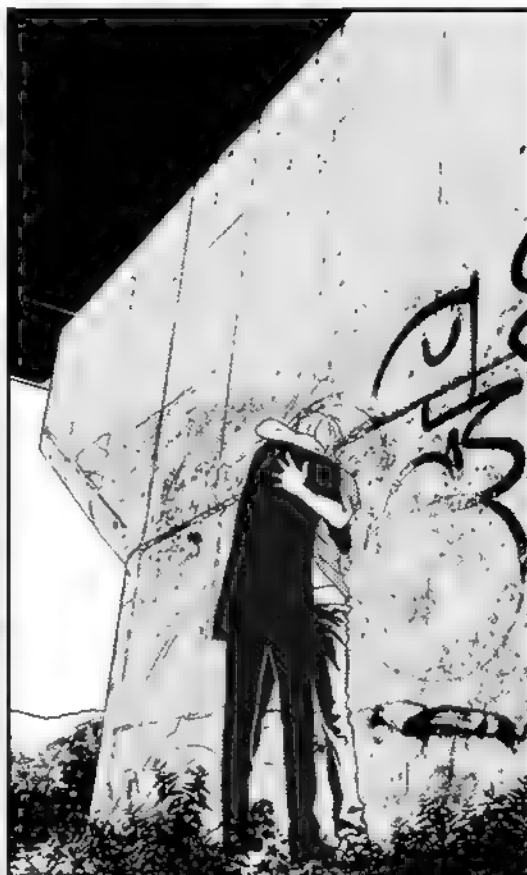


KE-

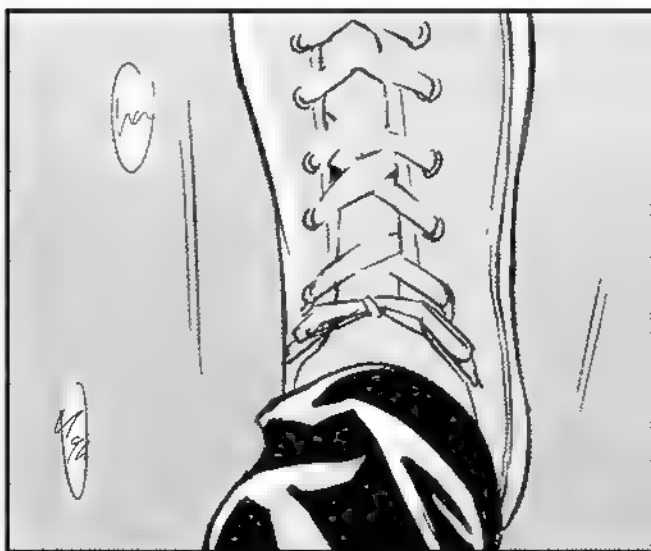












I've been so lonely, so scared.
When you're gone, it's like I'm freezing to death.





When I see you...

I feel like I'm dying

from love for you.





AND IT'S
IMPLANTED
RIGHT
THERE
IN YOUR
TOOTH.



A dude's
moans can
be sexier
than I'd
thought.



Even if
you hold
them back,
I can hear
it loud and
clear.

There's a
GPS-enabled
bug, powered
by your body
heat and the
movements
of your
mouth,



OOH...
WE HAVE
OURSELVES
AN EXHIBI-
TIONIST.



It's
Mikoshiba
Yutaka.



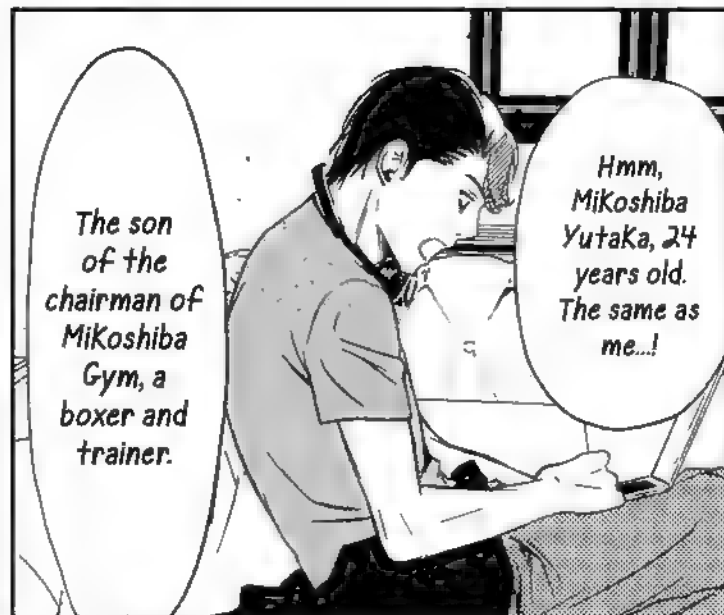
Umm, his
partner is
Mikoshiba...

Yutaka.
How do
you read
this?



HE'S KIND
OF SEXY-
CUTE, ISN'T
HE? HAHAI!

Ooh,
Is it
this
guy?



The son
of the
chairman of
Mikoshiba
Gym, a
boxer and
trainer.

Hmm,
Mikoshiba
Yutaka, 24
years old.
The same as
me...!



We've
known all
this from
the
start.

So why
did you
choose
to bring
him in?

He is Kei's
master key.
Or rather, his
owner.

Kei's head
appears to be
filled with
nothing but
this man.



Despite that, we need Kou on our side no matter what.

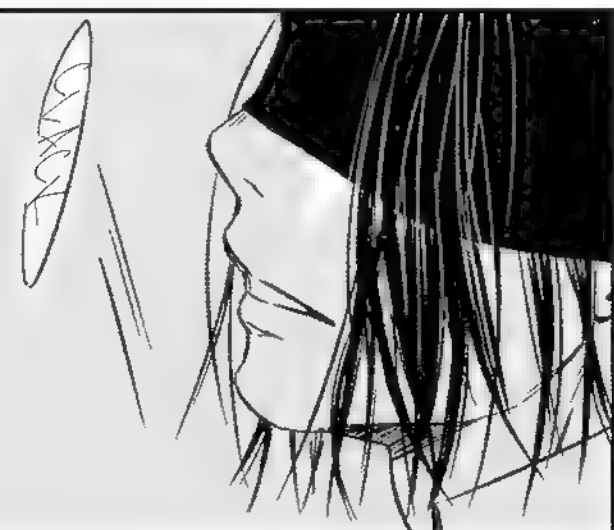
Because Kou's head is filled only with Kei.



Wait in my room, okay?

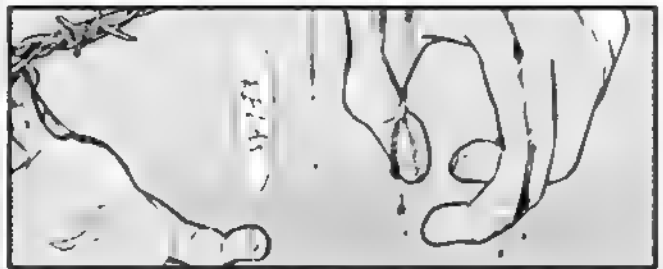
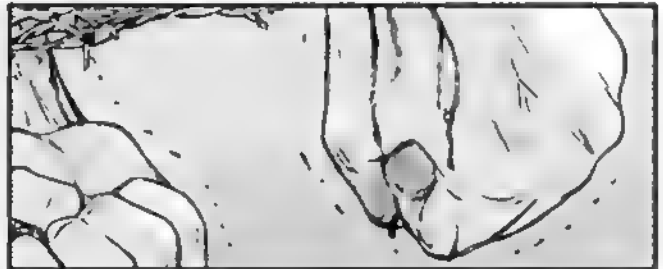


...Choi, please.











You're so
adorable,
Kou.
Suffering
this
much.



Just like me,
you simply happened
to have a father
who deserved to
die at the hands
of his son.

And yet
you yearn
to be
punished
for your
actions.





I'm not
so tolerant
as to
forgive that
selfishness
of yours.

And yet,
despite going
so far as to
offer your
organs to
keep me alive,
you're
determined
to devote
your heart
and soul to
your brother.



Even
your selfish
brother
tortures
you,

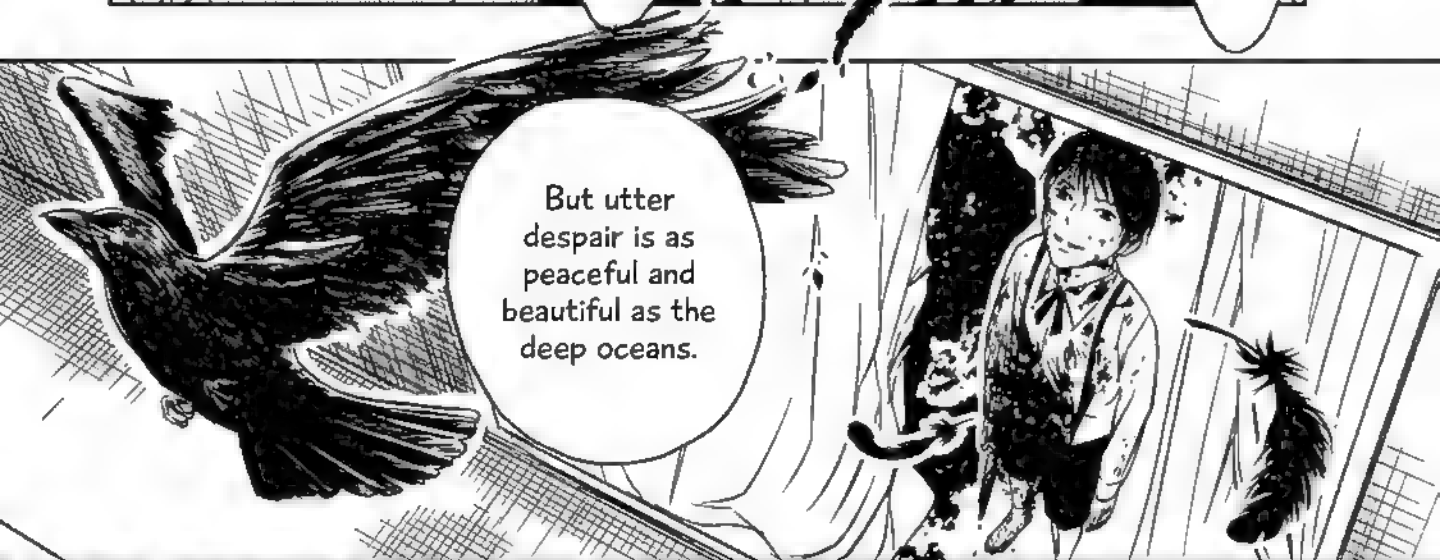
and
controls
your
heart.



are
painful
things,
Kou.



Half-
baked
hopes,



But utter
despair is as
peaceful and
beautiful as the
deep oceans.

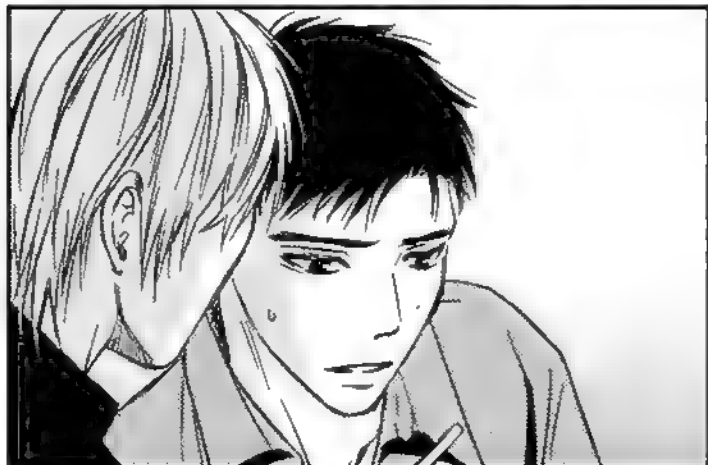


I shall
give that
to you.



Let's go home.

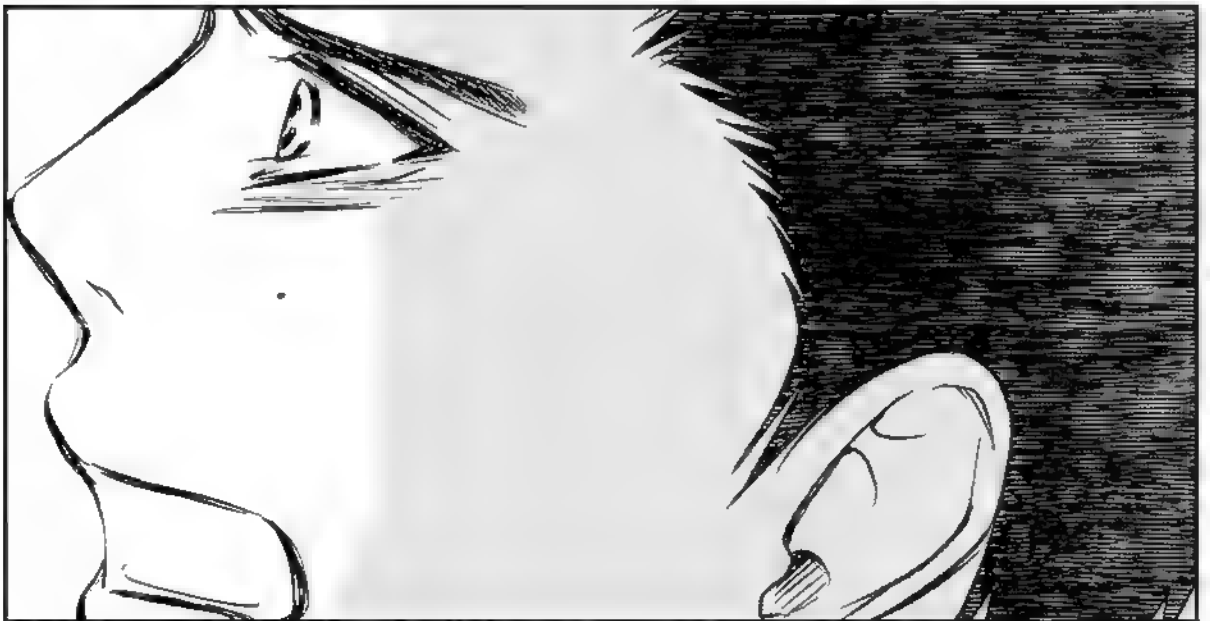
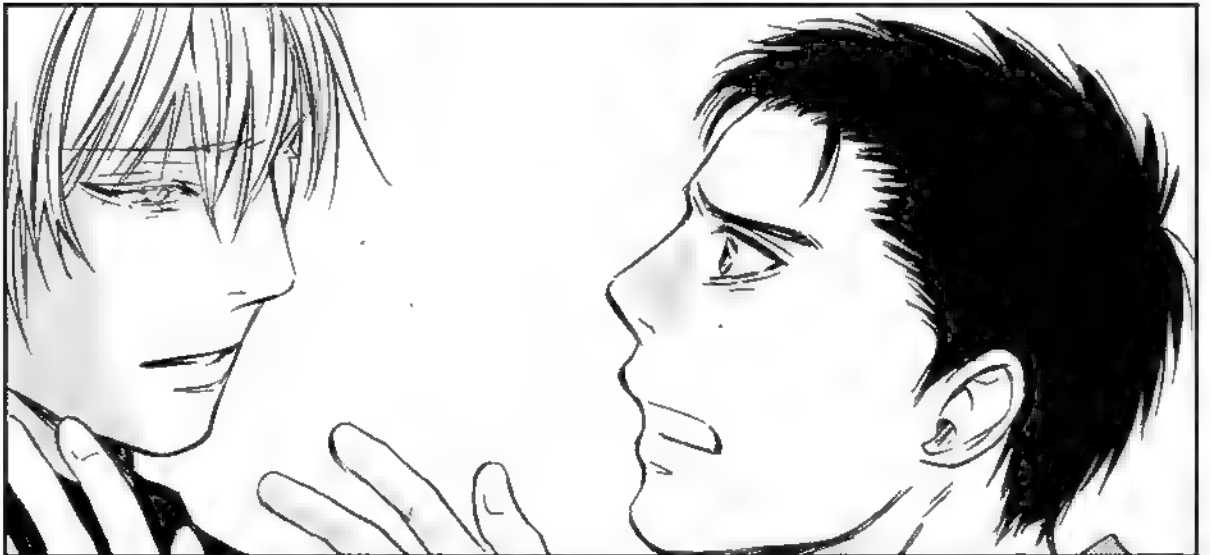
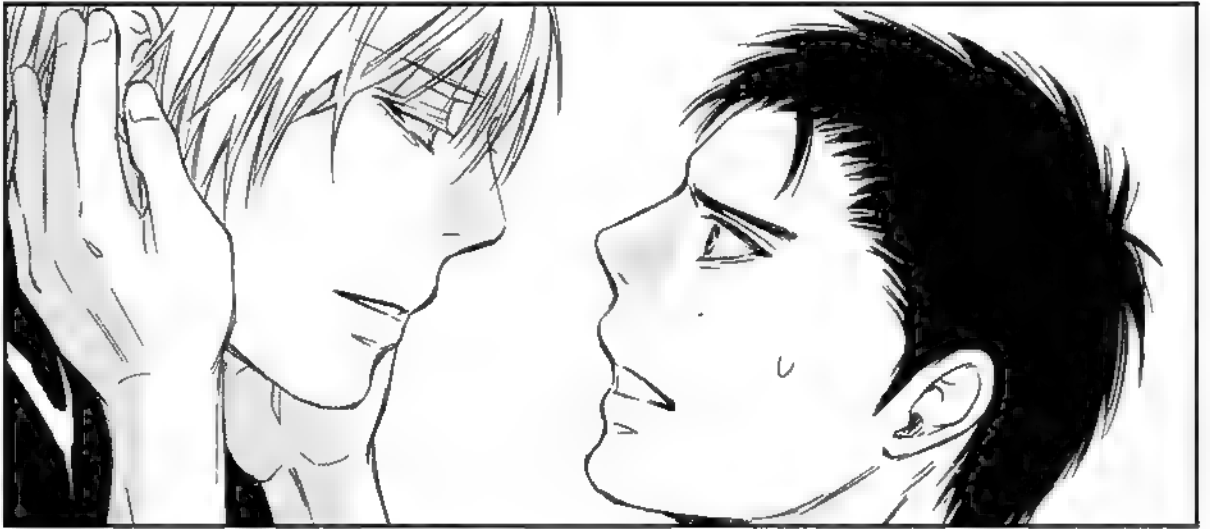




Don't speak.

*I don't know if I can.
Come here at the same time next week.
It's dangerous to look for me.
Don't contact me either.*







**WHAT IS
THIS?**

Give Kei...





**WHAT
THE HELL
AM I GOOD
FOR?!**

**WHAT USE
AM I IF I CAN'T
DO ANYTHING
TO HELP HIM?!!**



...back to me!







I am indebted to you, truly.

HAHAHA!

Ah yes, Hirota's Patrons' Association.

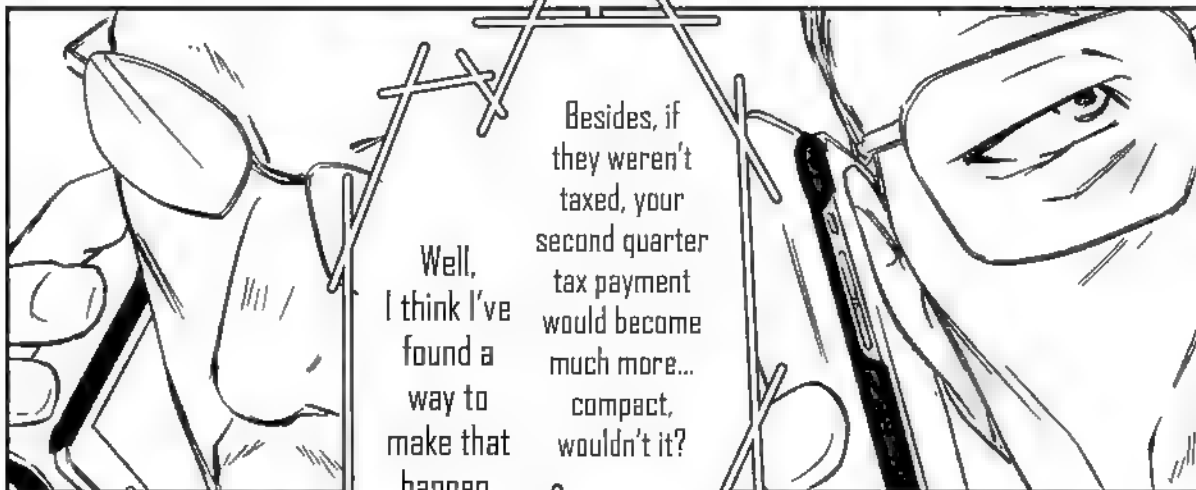
Good to hear from you as always.

Hm?



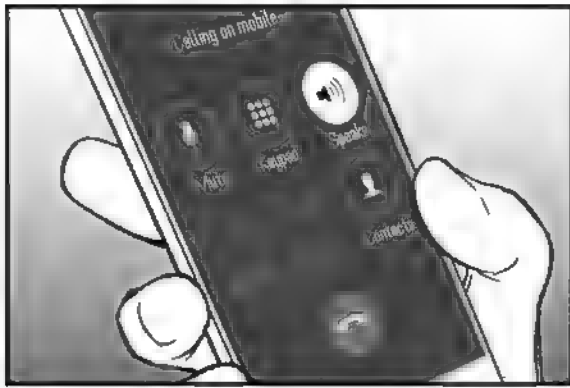
Don't you think it's an unfortunate waste of their goodwill that, thanks to all the taxes levied, you are unable to receive the full amount?

Regarding donations from the sponsors...



Well, I think I've found a way to make that happen.

Besides, if they weren't taxed, your second quarter tax payment would become much more... compact, wouldn't it?



Well, I'm
glad to hear
that you're
pleased.
Then, until
next time.

Indeed.
Oh
really?

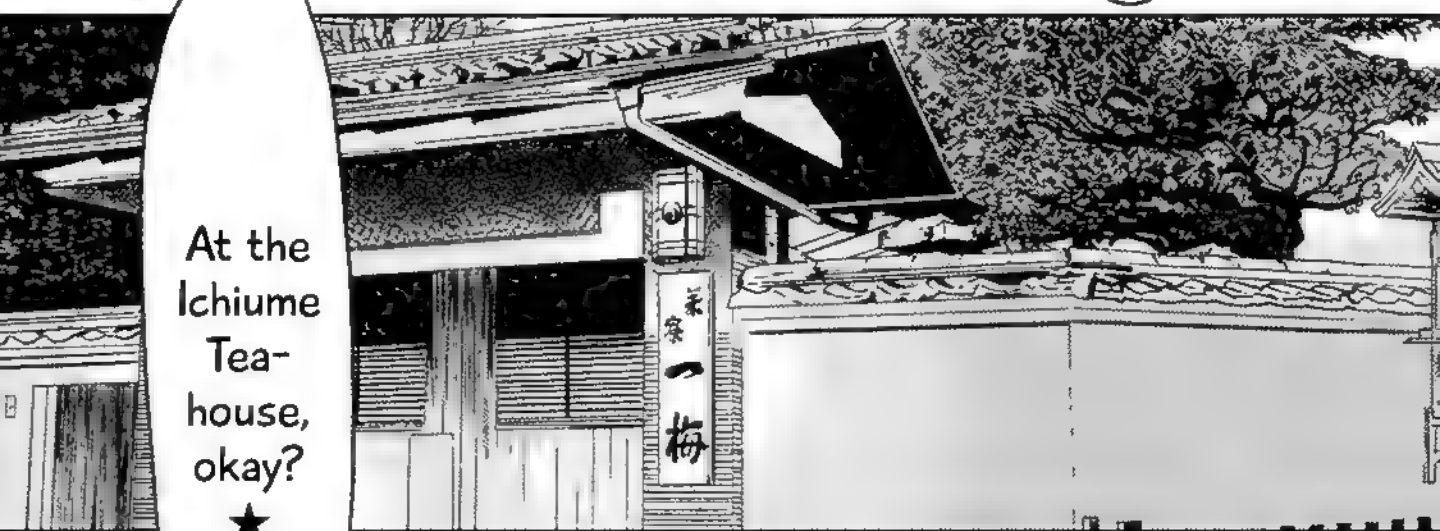


He
took
the
bait.

Tell
me.



Of
course
he did.





Conceal
your
profit...

That
is...

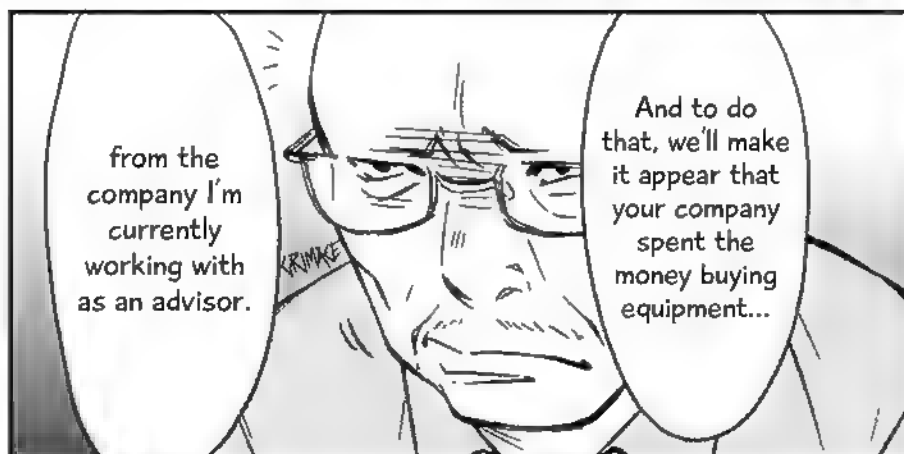
IMED...

Just didn't
happen in
the first
place.

We're
going to
pretend
that the
dona-
tions...

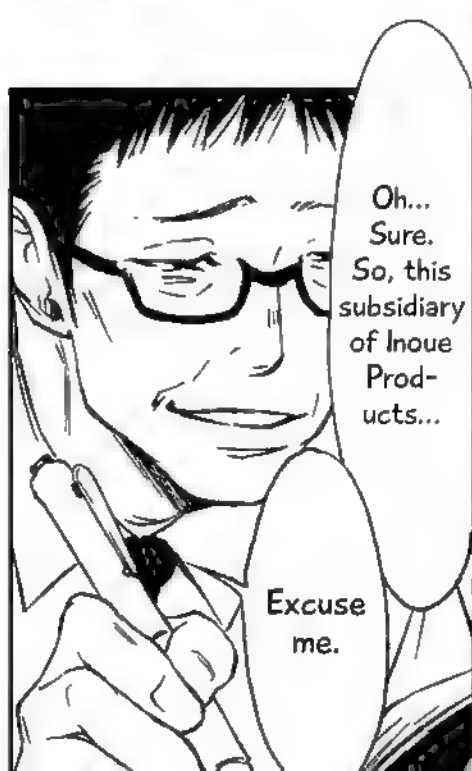
**HAAH?!
...YOU
WANT TO
CANCEL
OUR
PROFIT?!**

No,
no!



from the
company I'm
currently
working with
as an advisor.

And to do
that, we'll make
it appear that
your company
spent the
money buying
equipment...



Oh...
Sure.
So, this
subsidiary
of Inoue
Prod-
ucts...

Excuse
me.



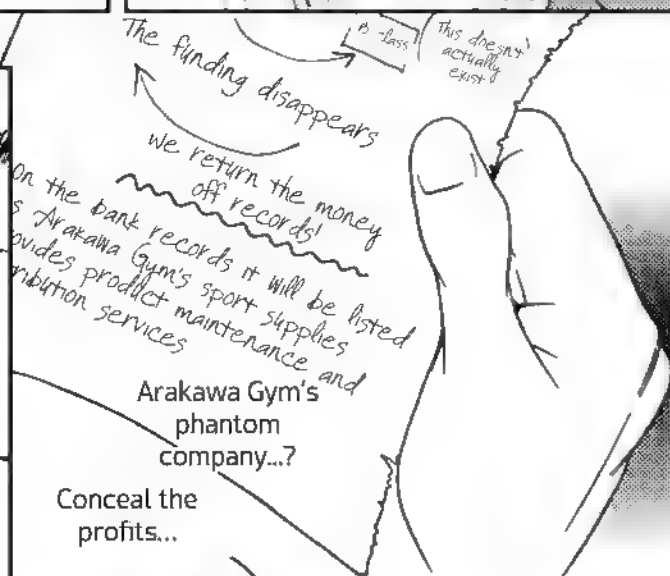
**HAAH?!
WRITE IT
DOWN ON
PAPER!**

This is
merely a
phantom
company,
you see...

**I DON'T
HAVE A
COMPANY!!
JUST A
GYM!**







"COMPANY WAS... THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT..."

"I DON'T HAVE ANY COMPANIES...!"

"IT'S AN PHANTOM COMPANY, SO..."

Ohhhh...?
Was the discussion earlier about tax evasion?





"Luckily it wasn't a title match, so he managed to retain his champions belt, but it seems clear that Mikoshiba Toshitake is indeed deserving of the name of champion..."

*I see,
I see...*

Arakawa Gym...
Arakawa Kazuhide...

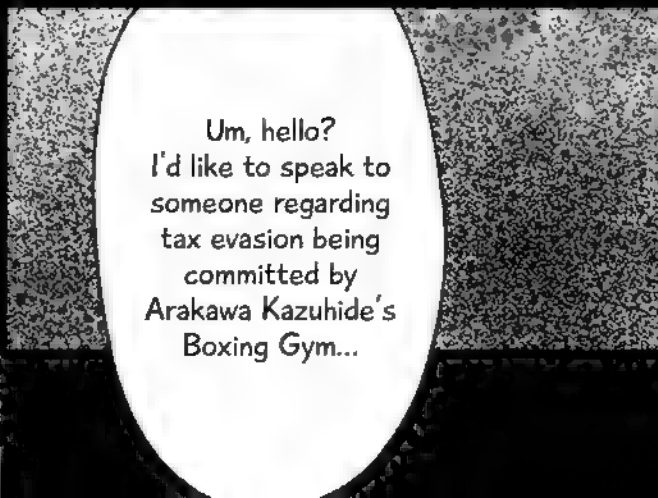
Ahh, so he lost to Chairman Mikoshiba once before.



My name is Honda Tomoya, from Mikoshiba Gym.



How frustrating that must have been...



Um, hello?
I'd like to speak to someone regarding tax evasion being committed by Arakawa Kazuhide's Boxing Gym...

TAX BUREAU

Thank you
for the
information
you've
provided.

...Yes...
I see...

Understood.
We shall
investigate
the rest.

Hello,
you've been
transferred
to the
department
of general
affairs.

Now then, how
to let Chairman
Arakawa know that
someone from
Mikoshiba tipped
off the tax
bureau...

Ehehehe.
Now what,
I wonder...
Will there be
a war?!

I've shredded
all documents
that could
be used as
evidence.

Someone
informed
on
Arakawa.

We'll wire
the fee to
the usual
account,
yes?

Thanks for
that, we'll
take care of
the rest.

...No
idea...

Yeah, he did
go out of his
way to mention
the Mikoshiba
gym twice.





I don't mind if it ends in their death, but make sure you use things you find in the vicinity, like beer bottles.

Kei will meet with the Hongo Group at 1am in the karaoke booth we reserved. The targets are three executives from the X

and the clan, commission comes from the young head of the same clan.



Blades and any objects that can be seen as proof of premeditation are strictly forbidden. Make sure he understands this.

Kei will withdraw immediately after the meeting. Do not overstay.



Hachi will receive the advance payment at 4am,



and will assist with the murder after that.

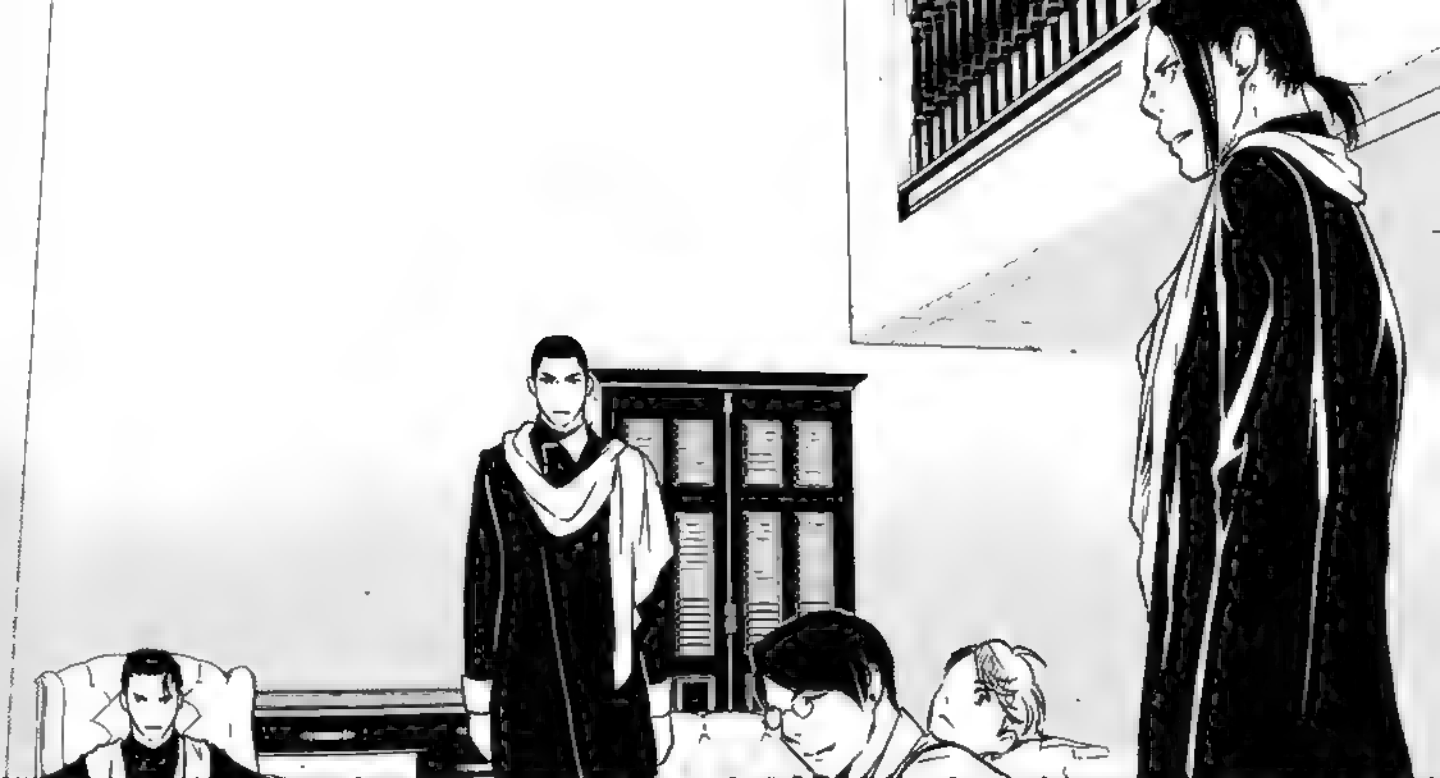
HERE IT COMES
HERE IT COMES
KAWA CHING!

I'll go over it again.



"Mikoshiba Gym."
They will be going out of business shortly.





WHY...?

"LET'S GO HOME."

That's the
name of the
boxing gym
that Kei was
at before,
I think.

I'm
right,
aren't
I?

Ahh,
that's
right!

OH, HE
ACTUALLY
SPOKE
FOR
ONCE!

Why
would
it be
shut
down?





We wouldn't want to have any politicians to get accidentally caught up in this.

So we thought we'd better just shut the place down so everyone involved can keep their dignity.



Well, I pulled some strings so it turned out alright, but...



Honda Tomoya.



But it certainly is strange,

for an anonymous tipster to identify himself.



That's the name of the person who informed the tax bureau. Do you know him?



HE
DOESN'T
HAVE THE
HEAD FOR
THAT.

HONDA
TOMOYA
REPORTING
TAX
EVASION?



Yutaka's
gym
is???

Yutaka,

T/N: Kashi-hagashi: The practice of Japanese lenders of aggressively calling for full repayment of a loan well before the due date.



The
infamous
"Credit
Withdrawal"
tactic.

How long
will they
hold out in
a battle of
endurance?

and they'll
be forced
to repay the
entire sum
immediately.

Mikoshiba
Gym's bank
will be
terminating
their loan
shortly,





Yutaka.

HEROSCANS

RAWS,
TYPESETTING,
EN-PROOF,
QUALITY
CHECK:

QUIETUS

CLEANING:

KIMCHI

TRANSLATION,
TYPESETTING:

REI

JP-PROOF:


KANNA

JP/EN PROOF,
QUALITY CHECK:

VARRICK



10



They're the same as the leader from that cult that was causing such a stir on TV recently.

Those clothes...

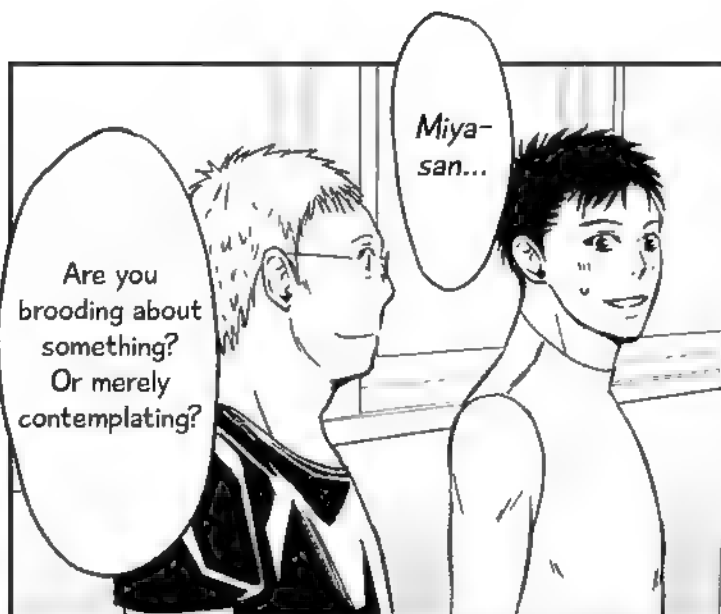
There's definitely something fishy going on.

Why does it have to be him?

Fuck...!
I should have forced him to come home with me when I had the chance...

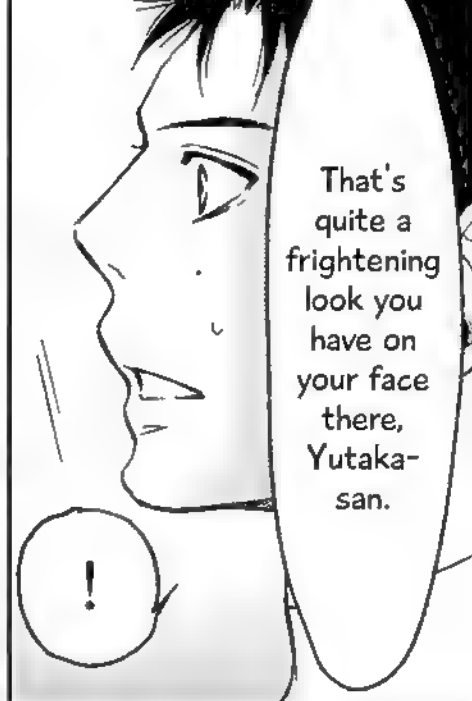
It's always Kei who has to endure these things. It's cruel.

As I thought, he hasn't contacted me...



Are you brooding about something? Or merely contemplating?

Miya-san...



That's quite a frightening look you have on your face there, Yutaka-san.

!



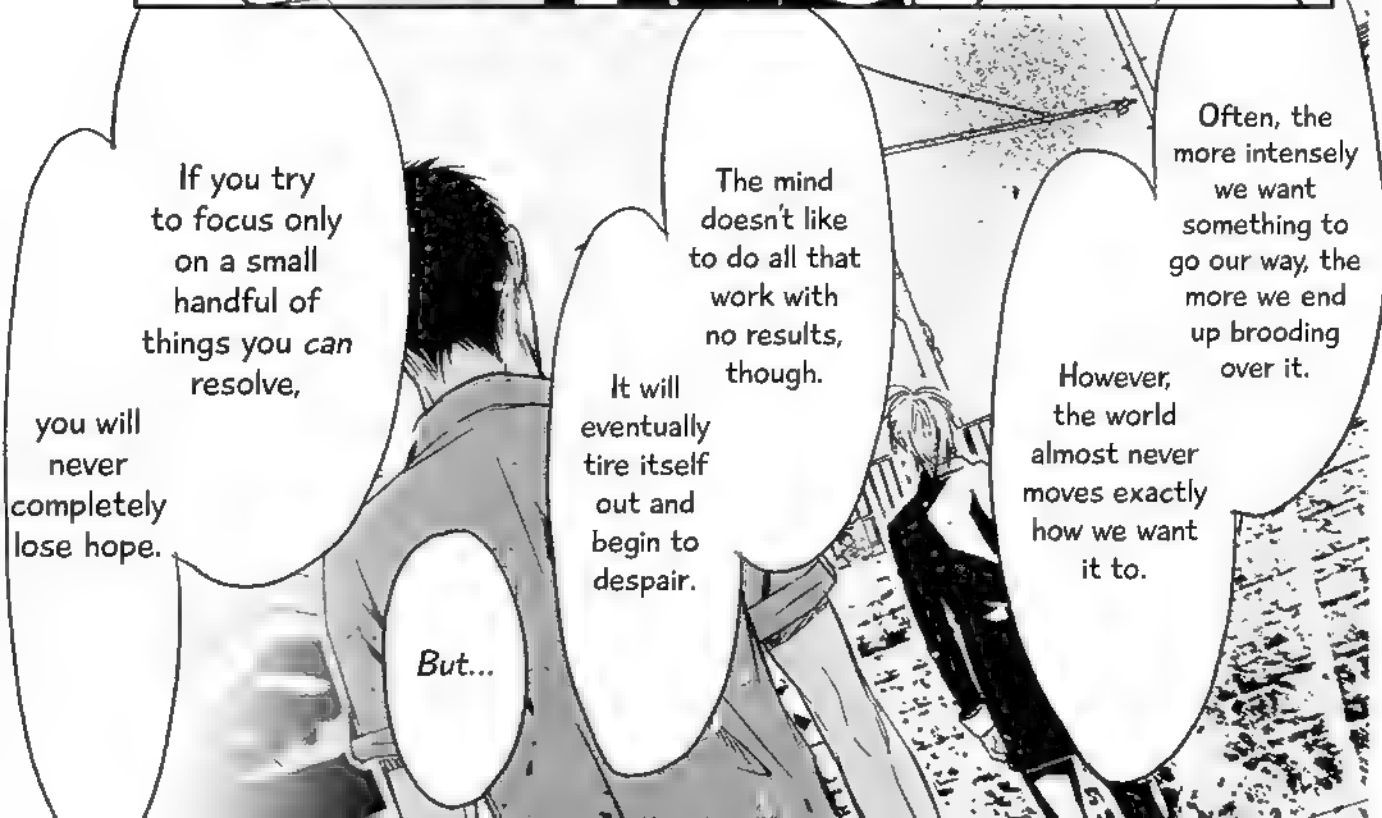
That's how I see it, anyway.

I'd call it brooding when you're consumed by something you can't resolve, no matter how much you think about it.

Ah...

Is there a difference?

Brooding... Contemplating...



If you try to focus only on a small handful of things you can resolve,

you will never completely lose hope.


The mind doesn't like to do all that work with no results, though.

It will eventually tire itself out and begin to despair.

Often, the more intensely we want something to go our way, the more we end up brooding over it.

However, the world almost never moves exactly how we want it to.


But...



...You're
right...
It truly
will...



AND HOPE,
HOWEVER
HOW SMALL
OR HALF-
HEARTED IT
MAY BE,
WILL ALWAYS
LIGHT UP
THE PATH
BEFORE
YOUR
FEET.



No, no,
not at
all.

Thank
you for
your
advice.

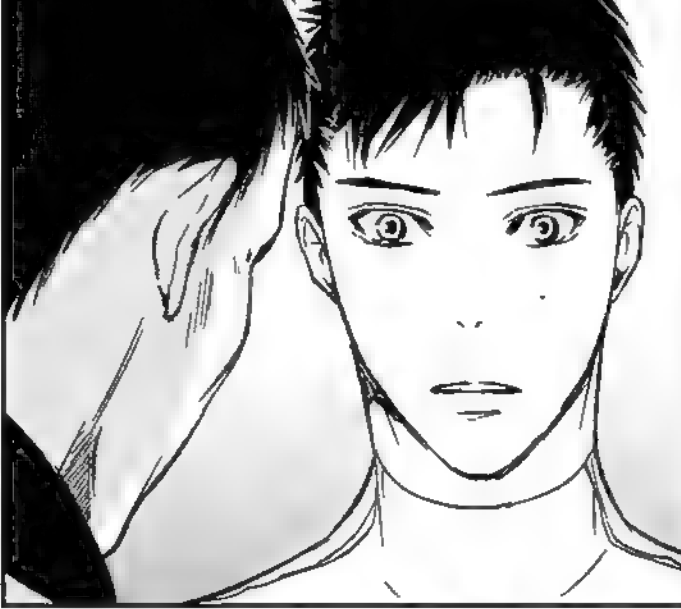


How did
that meeting
about
repairing the
rings go?



Yes?

Yutaka.





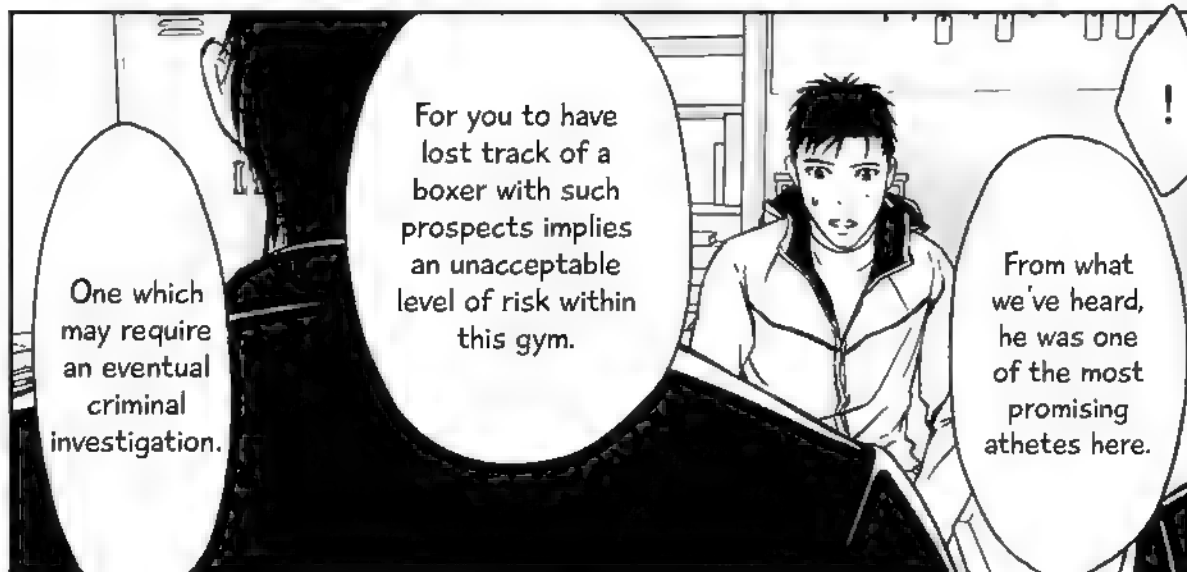
Or so we have been informed.

It would appear that one of your athletes has gone missing.



Where is this coming from?

YOU'RE CALLING IN THE LOAN ON THE GYM...?



One which may require an eventual criminal investigation.

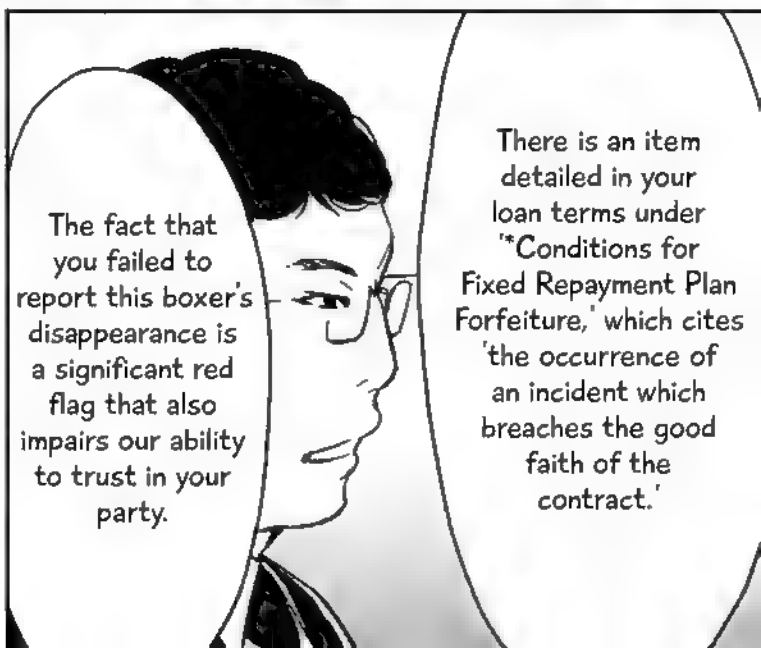
For you to have lost track of a boxer with such prospects implies an unacceptable level of risk within this gym.

From what we've heard, he was one of the most promising athletes here.



and request that the balance of 25 million yen be repaid by the end of the month.

And so accordingly, we have no choice but to advance your due date as per the policy,



The fact that you failed to report this boxer's disappearance is a significant red flag that also impairs our ability to trust in your party.

There is an item detailed in your loan terms under "Conditions for Fixed Repayment Plan Forfeiture," which cites 'the occurrence of an incident which breaches the good faith of the contract.'

*A fixed repayment plan is a loan recipient's right to repay their loan sum in installments. If it's right is revoked, the recipient has no choice but to repay the remaining amount in a lump sum.







— If,



— If,





would
you leave
them be?

If I can
prove that
Mikoshiba
Gym had
nothing to
do with the
information
leak,



...EW,
THAT'S SO
DISGUSTING...
I'M GETTING
GOOSEBUMPS
ALL OVER.
I WANT HIM
TO DIE.
I WANT TO
KILL HIM.

WOAH.



PFFT.



Sure,
why
not?



There is,
but which
OS do you
want?!
Windows?!
Mac?!
Linux?!

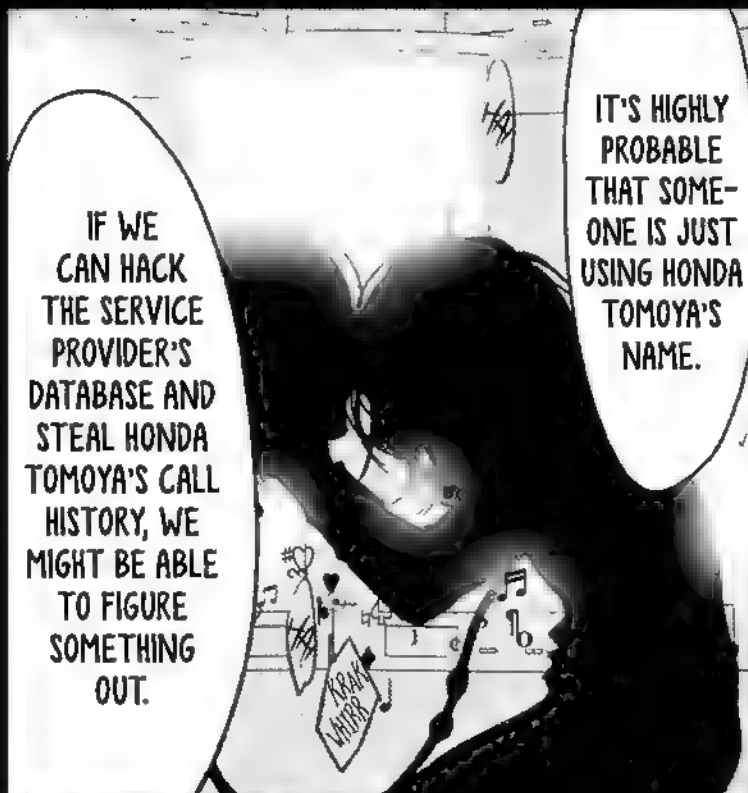
HAA?!

Is there a
PC I can
use?



...SHUT
UP...
STOP.

...TAKA...
YUTAKA...



IF WE
CAN HACK
THE SERVICE
PROVIDER'S
DATABASE AND
STEAL HONDA
TOMOYA'S CALL
HISTORY, WE
MIGHT BE ABLE
TO FIGURE
SOMETHING
OUT.

IT'S HIGHLY
PROBABLE
THAT SOME-
ONE IS JUST
USING HONDA
TOMOYA'S
NAME.



—IT'S
STRANGE
THAT THEY
BOTHERED
TO IDENTIFY
THEMSELVES
GIVEN
THEY USED
A MASKED
PHONE
NUMBER.

STOP
USING
THE
CORE
WITHO-
PERMI-



SEEING
AS HE'S
HIJACKED
A PACHINKO
PARLOR
BEFORE,
HE'D
PROBABLY
DO THIS
FOR ME
JUST FOR
FUN.



USER-
NAME:
leftists



WILL
BREAK,
YO U
SHITTY
VIRUS.

THE
MAIN
FRAME



ANSWER
ME, MAN!

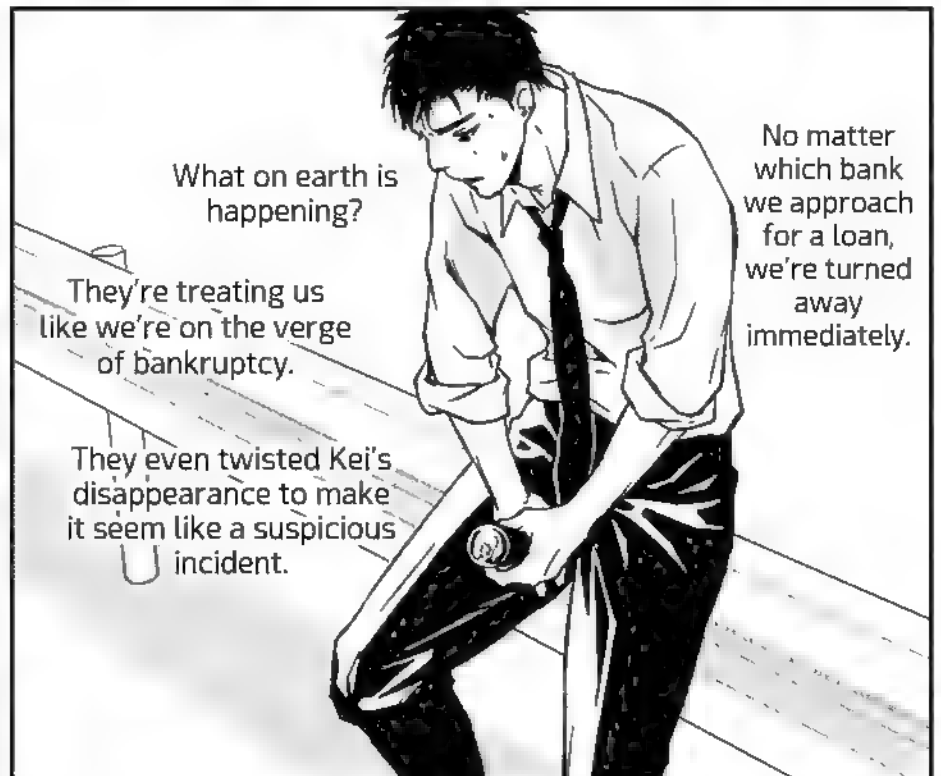
HEY!



...A
LINUX
LAPTO-P,
PLEA, SE.

...I'LL
TAKE...

CLANG



What on earth is happening?

They're treating us like we're on the verge of bankruptcy.

They even twisted Kei's disappearance to make it seem like a suspicious incident.

No matter which bank we approach for a loan, we're turned away immediately.

and no other member of the gym has visited so often that they'd notice Kei's absence.

Tomoya wouldn't have said anything.

Even if the bank investigated thoroughly,

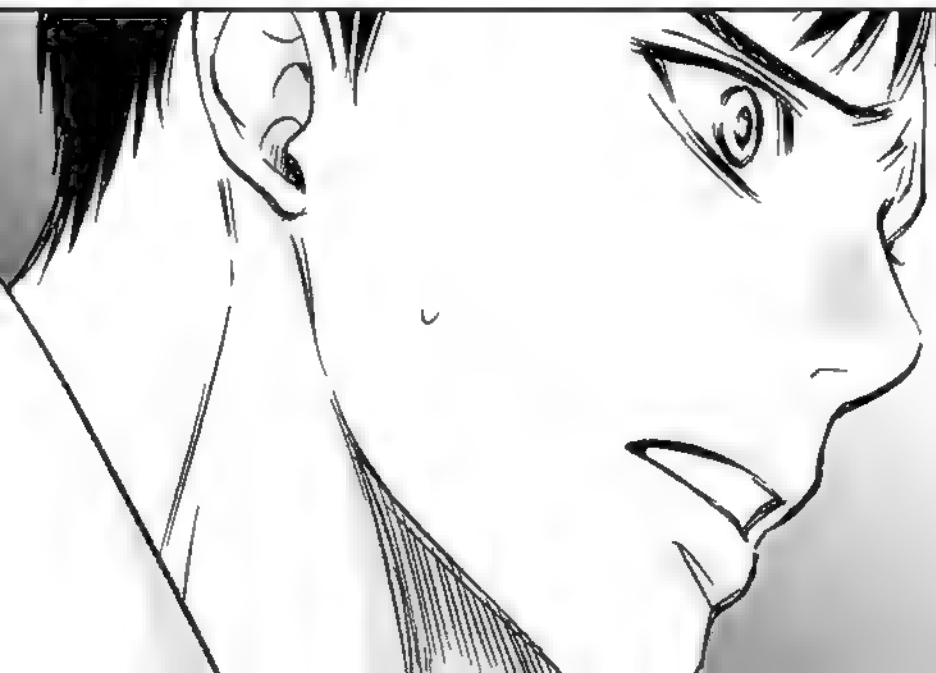
would they really be able to pinpoint Kei's disappearance like that so quickly?

"THEY'RE LISTENING."

"YOU'RE IN DANGER."



"COME HERE AT THE SAME TIME NEXT WEEK."



KEI...





```
::::irc freenode.net  
(ERC)>/join#leftists
```

```
belyy: I have a request for  
a game.
```





:::::irc freenode.net
(ERC)>/join#leftists

belyy : I have a request for a game.
leftists : Long time no see,
 Kitty-chan. The Pachinko
 case was interesting.
 What is it this time?





The web server's is pretty weak.

The security at the service provider is passable.

Hmm.



6th

And then there's the mystery of how Kitten-chan conveniently got his hands on information that would lead him straight to the right answer.

DRIVER'S LICENSE

Kanagawa Prefectural
National Public
Safety Commission

Still...

I do wonder how this guy managed to find out that Arakawa's Gym was committing tax evasion...

THE SCENARIO IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, ONE MIGHT SAY.

Similar to the way it feels when security have placed a honeypot trap in the system...

This feels rather like I'm getting lured into something.



Hurry!



HURRY
UP,
HURRY
UP!



I
CAN'T...
SEE A
THING...

...SHUT...UP...

WE CAN
SAVE YUTAKA!
WE PROMISED
TO MEET
HIM TODAY!
I'M SURE
HE'LL BE
HAPPY!



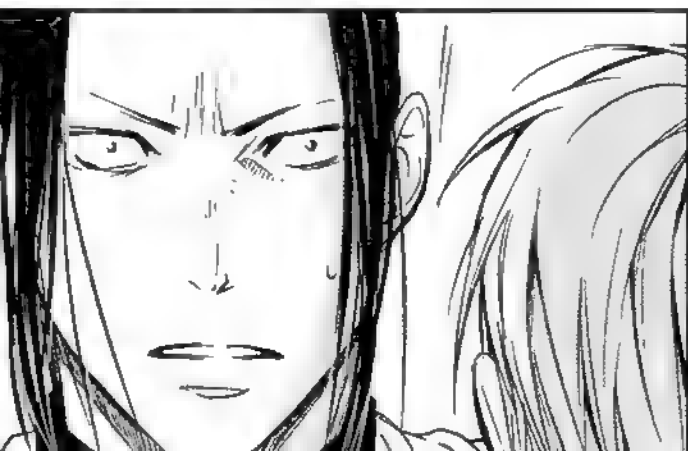
HURRY!

CHOI!





HOW
DARE YOU
COME BACK
SO LATE
AND START
TALKING
THIS
SHIT...!

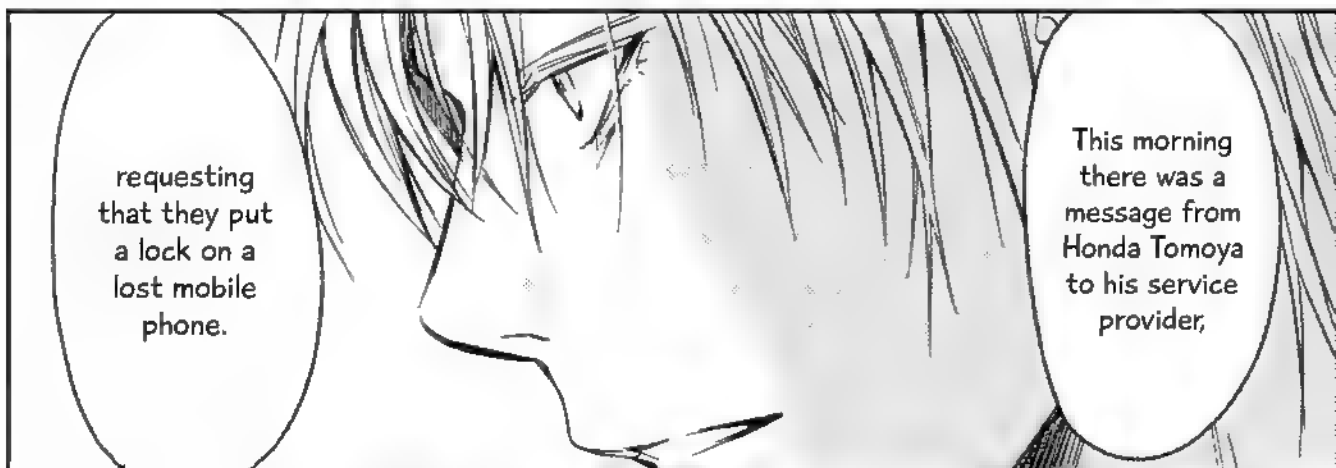




CONTINUE.

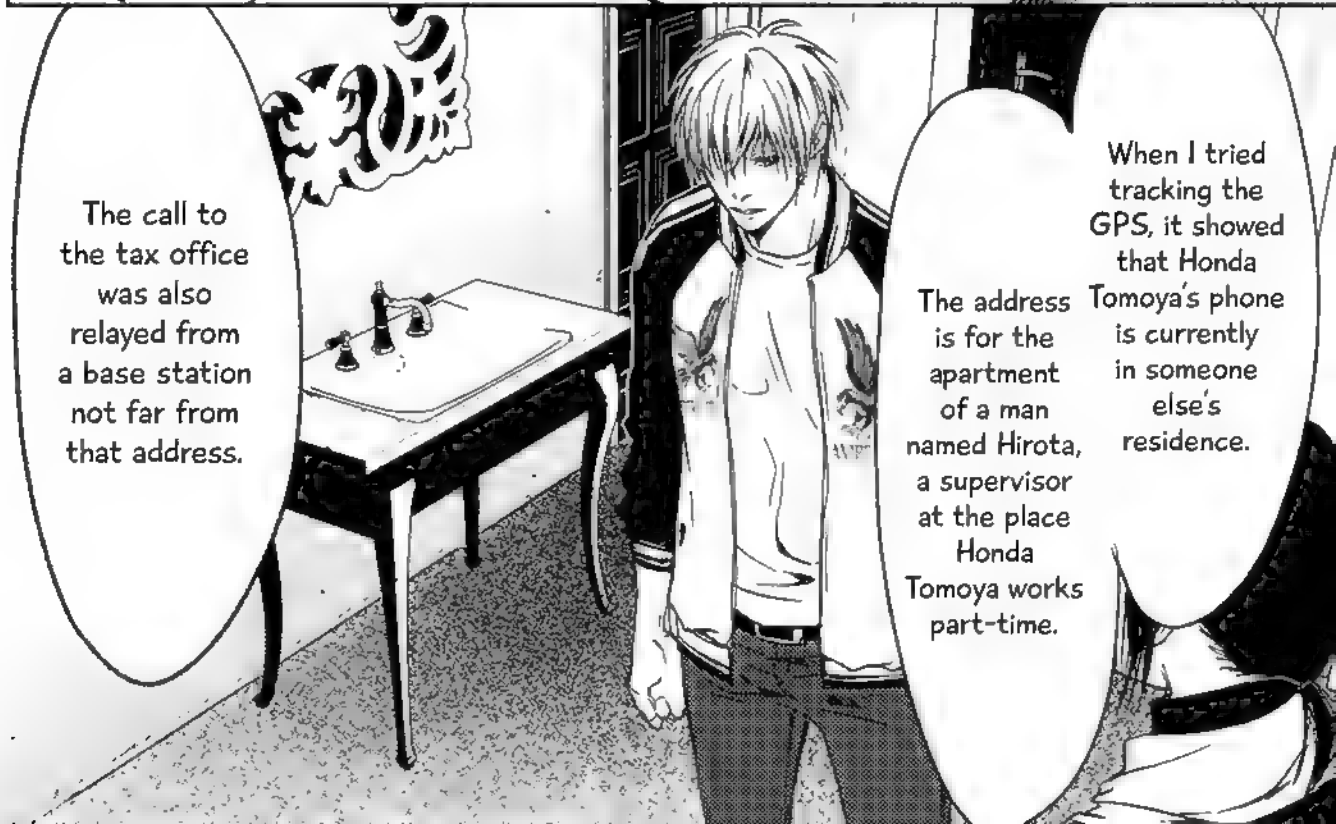


IT'S FINE.



requesting
that they put
a lock on a
lost mobile
phone.

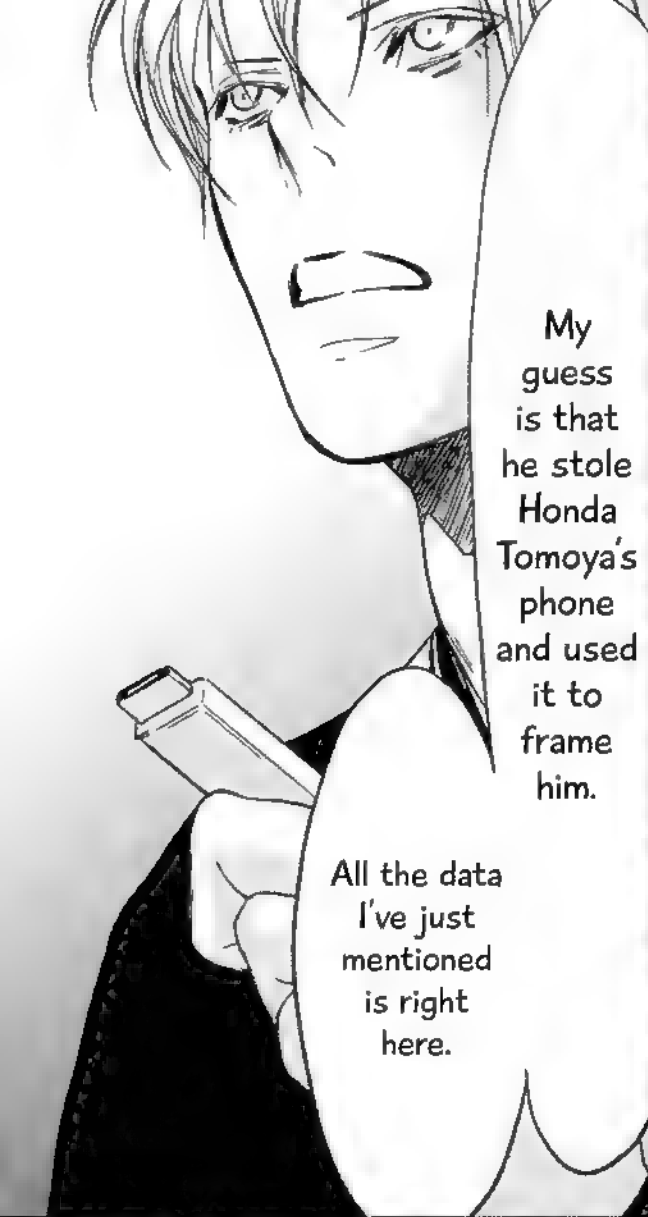
This morning
there was a
message from
Honda Tomoya
to his service
provider,



The call to
the tax office
was also
relayed from
a base station
not far from
that address.

When I tried
tracking the
GPS, it showed
that Honda
Tomoya's phone
is currently
in someone
else's
residence.

The address
is for the
apartment
of a man
named Hirota,
a supervisor
at the place
Honda
Tomoya works
part-time.



My guess is that he stole Honda Tomoya's phone and used it to frame him.

All the data I've just mentioned is right here.



Hirota's social media profile is constantly filled with complaints about the terrible attitude of the part-timers where he works.

asked me lolololol
Just don't ~

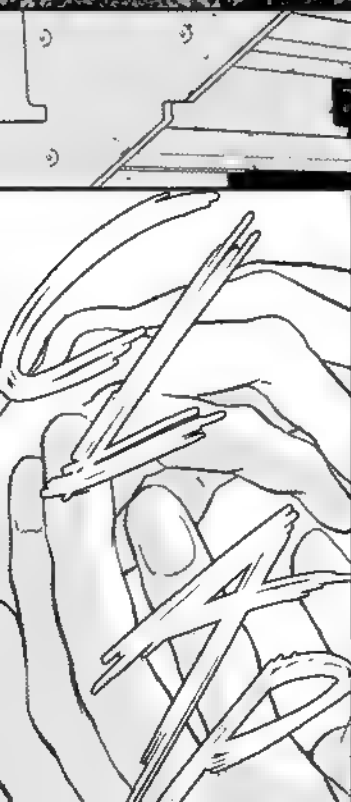


Tatsudan @yuma1c

die die die

messing around it was
practicing he's just a thug

changing shifts??
schedules the shifts are





THIS
IS JUST
LIKE...

THE SUPER
RING IN
ARAKAWA
GYM, ISN'T
IT? THAT
TIME WHEN
WE WON!

EVERY-
ONE
WAS SO
HAPPY.





That's amazing!
You actually got a "Good job" out of Mike!

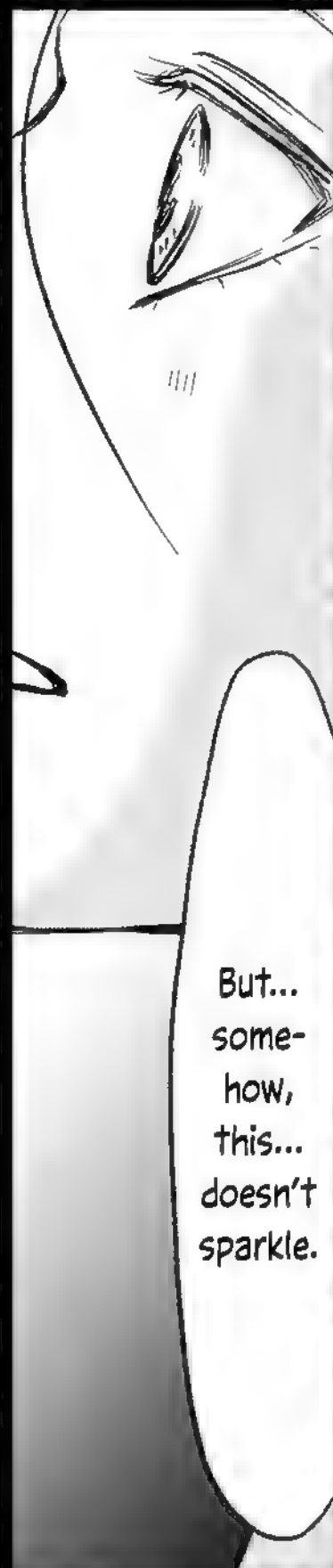


How wonderful.

With this you've proved that Mikoshiba gym has nothing to do with the case.



AND ALSO
THAT YOU'RE
NOT SUITED
FOR THIS
WORLD.



But... somehow, this... doesn't sparkle.



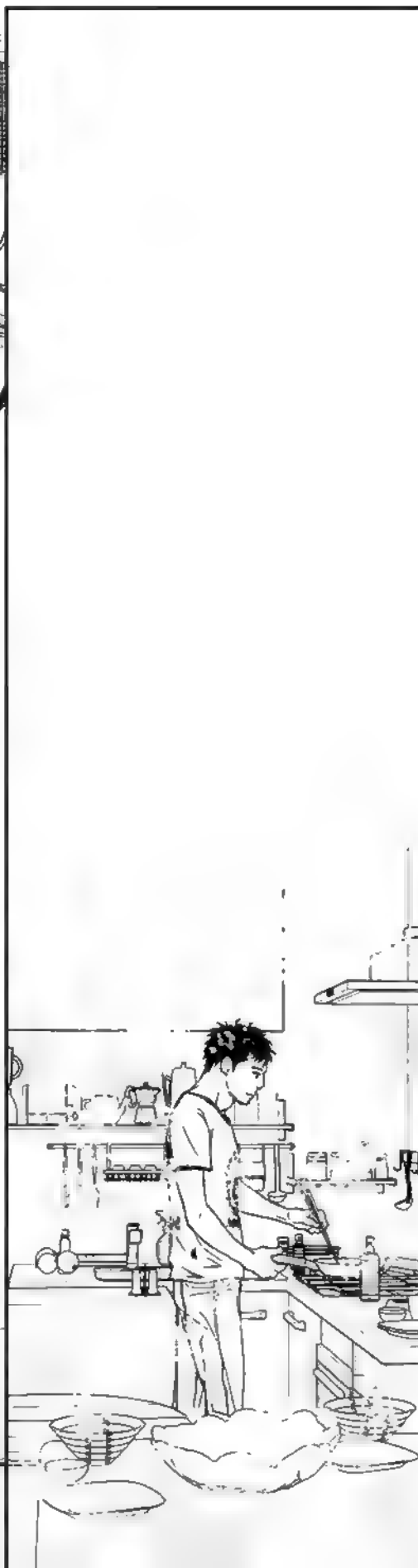
YOU THOUGHT
YOU WOULDN'T
GET CAUGHT
IF YOU DIDN'T
SEND ANYTHING.
HOW NAIVE
OF YOU.

I HEARD
YOU MADE A
PROMISE TO
MEET WITH
MIKOSHIBA
YUTAKA-KUN
TODAY.



DO.
YOU.
WANT.
TO.
GO.
HOME.
TO.
HIM?







That's
way
too
honest!

HE
WANTS
TO GO
HOME!

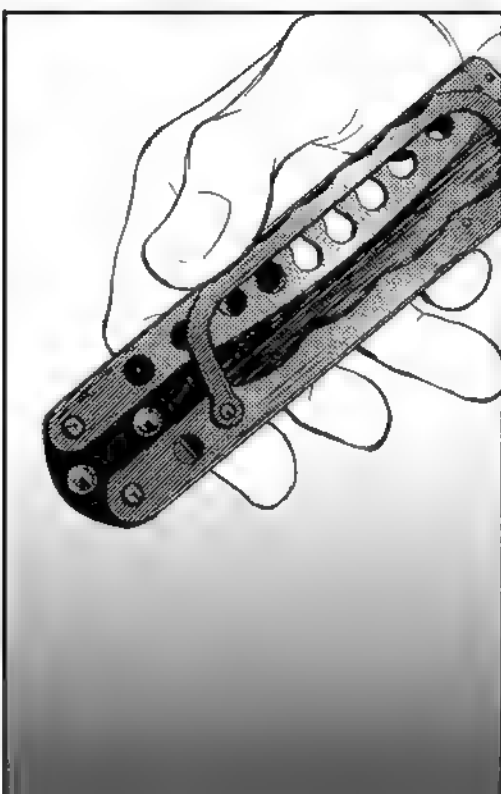


No, no.
that's how
it should
be.

Hachi.



.....I
WANT
TO GO
HOME.





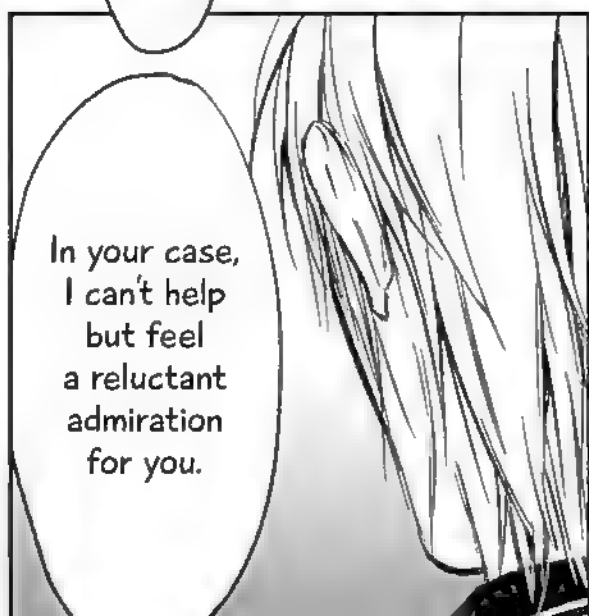
I WANT
YOU TO STAB
YOURSELF
IN THE
ABDOMEN
WITH THIS
KNIFE.



Normally, anyone who wishes to leave our family has to give their life in recompense. That's our rule.



But, Kei...



In your case, I can't help but feel a reluctant admiration for you.



This deal doesn't sound too bad for you, does it?

Like Hachi just said, whether you live or die is up to fate to decide.

Which is to say, there is a possibility you might survive and return to Mikoshiba Yutaka-kun.



AND
IGNORING
YOUR
OLDER
BROTHER'S
ADVICE,

BREAKING
OUR
RULES,


TO
PRIORITIZE
YOUR
TRYST WITH
MIKOSHIBA-
KUN ABOVE
ALL ELSE.

THIS IS
ALL A
TERRIBLE
BETRAYAL.



I'VE ONLY
KNOWN
YOU FOR
TWO WEEKS
BUT YOU
ARE TRULY
ONE OF
THE MOST
RECKLESS
PEOPLE
I'VE EVER
MET.

FORCE



HOWEVER...
IF YOUR ACTIONS
WERE DELIBERATE,
IF YOU ACTED
BECAUSE OF A
LOVE SO STRONG
THAT IT WILL
NOT WAVER EVEN
IN THE FACE OF
DEATH...



THEN
IT IS A
MIRACLE
THAT FEW
COULD
ACHIEVE!



Such a
love as
yours is
foreign
to us, to
say the
least.



To think
that such
an emotion
truly does
exist in this
world...

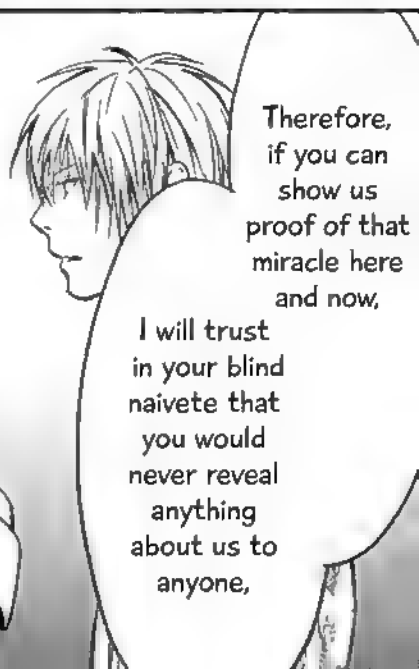


If you
survive.

Yutaka.



and I will
happily
take you
back to
Mikoshiba-
kun.



Therefore,
if you can
show us
proof of that
miracle here
and now,

I will trust
in your blind
naivete that
you would
never reveal
anything
about us to
anyone,



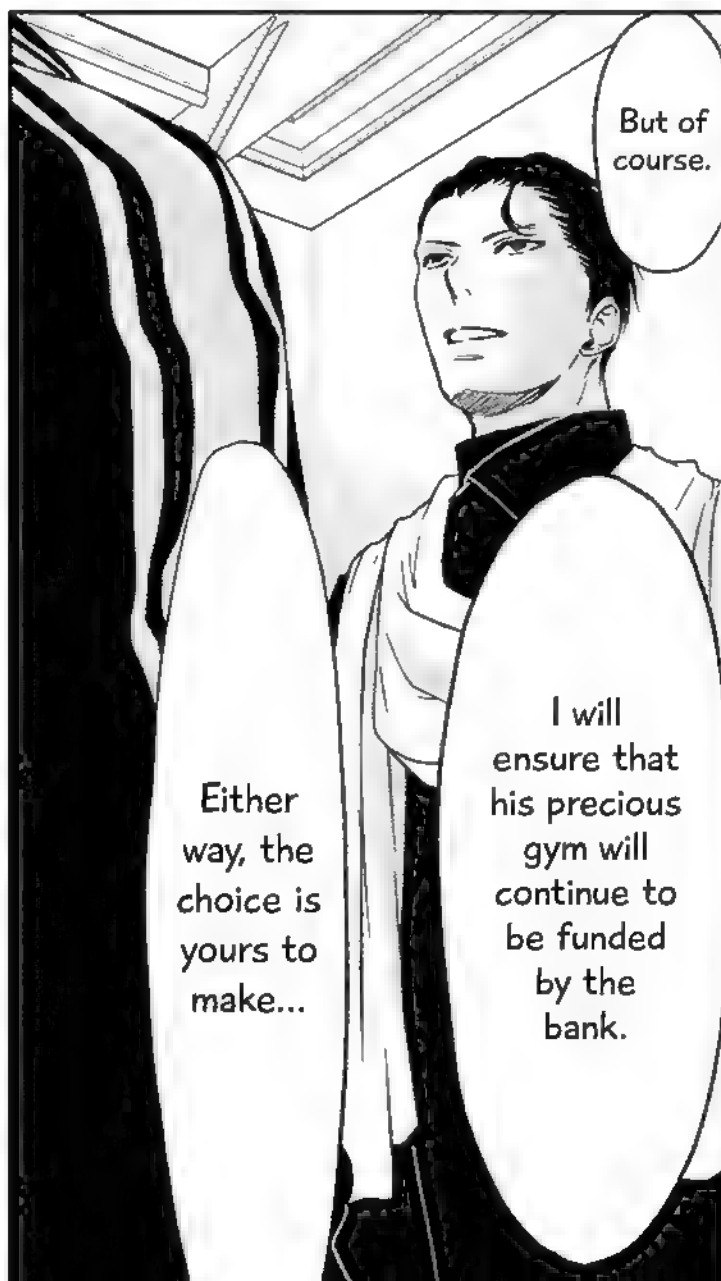
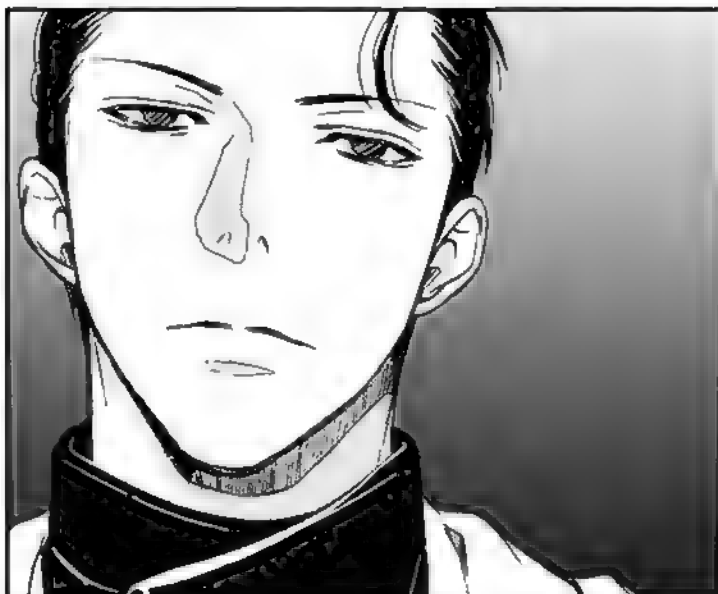
Why
certainly,
Kei! If you
survive,
Mikoshiba-
kun and
everything
concerning
him will
be-

Even if
I don't
survive,
will you
keep
your
hands
off
Yutaka?



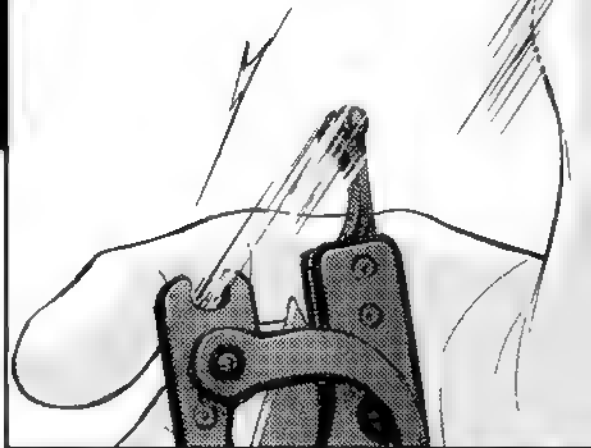
Will you
keep your
hands off
Yutaka?



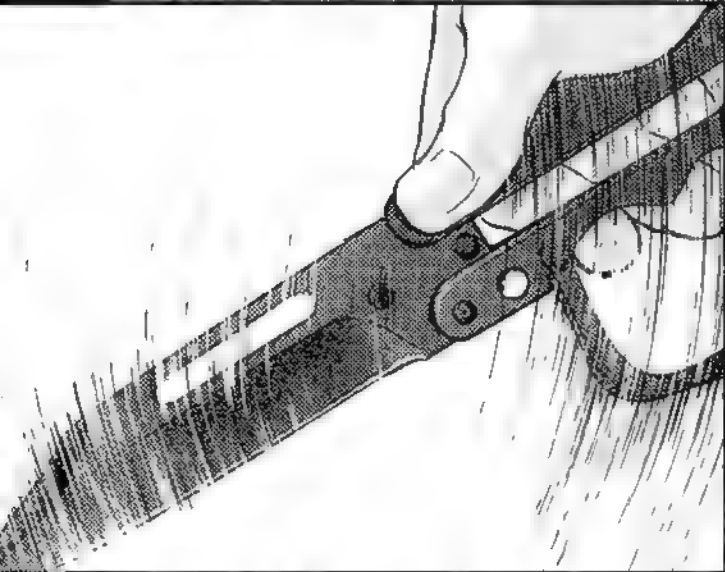




THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH.



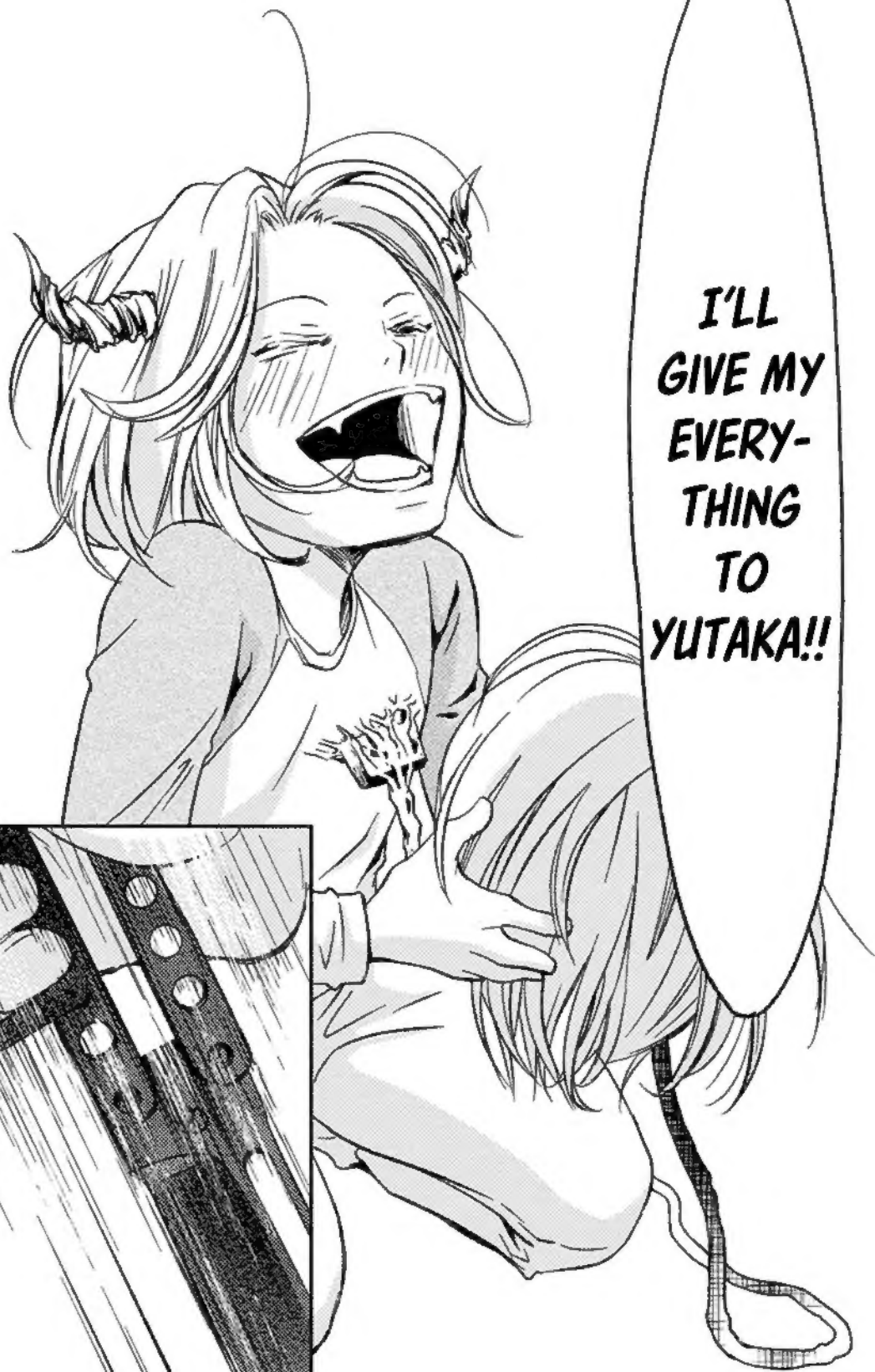
HEY,
LISTEN! I
JUST HAD
THE BEST
IDEA!



I'LL GIVE
EVERYTHING,
EVERYTHING
TO YUTAKA!



BECAUSE
I
COULDN'T
WIN.
BECAUSE
I DON'T
HAVE
ANYTHING
ELSE.



**I'LL
GIVE MY
EVERY-
THING
TO
YUTAKA!!**

**I PROMISED TO MEET
YUTAKA TODAY, SO
I WANT TO SEE HIS
SMILING FACE.**

to be continued...gift^③



HERO SCANS

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